

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

Global Visions 25th Annual Film Festival

2-6 November

Empire Theatres City Centre

\$10 per film at Earth's General Store, Alternative Video Spot, Tix on the Square and Mountain Equipment Co-op

The theme of this year's festival is "Shades of Reality," focusing on globalization, justice and social issues. The organization that puts on the festival has had some financial problems and struggled to get the festival going this year, so help them out by supporting this annual cultural staple and seeing some great cinema in the process.

Souls In Rhythm

Friday, 3 November at 9pm

Sidetrack Café

\$8 at the door

Singer-songwriter/keyboardist Scott Henderson and the rest of Souls In Rhythm are bringing the soul train to Edmonton. Promoting their new album *Can't Fake the Funk*, the group is taking their soulful jazz and R&B act from Calgary across the country. The band has also reached the upper echelons of Canadian music, scoring two Juno nominations, which were unfortunately both lost to Bryan Adams.

The Subhumans

With Guests

Friday, 3 November at 8pm

Victory Lounge, 18+

\$10 at door

Just in time for the Halloween season, the legendary punk outfit The Subhumans, formed by barely-human members of Vancouver's blossoming underground sewer community, has resurfaced 25 years after releasing their Canadian punk classic *Incorrect Thoughts*. The band released their sophomore album *New Dark Age Parade* in September and is hitting the Victory Lounge to promote their political ideals and their love for fresh human brains.

Support the Arts Event

Art exhibit by Lili Vanderlaan

Featuring Plaid Tongued Devils, Vibe Tribe-Music By Paul Bromley, Zaghareet! Tribal Belly Dance, Rag A Belly Dance and Mile Zero Dance

Friday, 3 November at 7:30pm

Starlite Room, 18+

\$10 advance at Blackbyrd Music, Listen, Acoustic Music Shop and online @ nancy.vibetribe@gmail.com. \$15 at door

The only thing that goes together better than belly dancing and art is dirty dancing and Patrick Swayze. But since Johnny Castle is tough to book, why not enjoy a night of belly dancing, live music and art at the Starlite Room instead? Local artist Lili Vanderlaan presents her exhibit while the Plaid Tongue Devils and belly dancers entertain the crowd. It'll be even more fun than dancing with the Swayz' himself.

Moses Mayes

With David Hein and AA Soundsystem

Saturday, 4 November at 8pm

Victory Lounge

\$10 Advance at Megatunes, Blackbyrd, and Listen

According to the King James Brown version of the Bible, the ancient prophet Moses was appointed by the Godfather of Soul to lead the Hebrew people to get up off of that thing in Egypt. Reading from a cliff, Moses said to his people, "Thou shalt get on the scene and covet thy neighbour's funk." This Saturday, that scene will be the Victory Lounge and that funk will be eight-piece Winnipeg jazz-funk ensemble Moses Mayes. Along with acoustic rocker David Hein and Edmonton folk rockers AA Soundsystem, it's a concert that will be worth parting the Red Sea for.

JOHN KMECH
Not allowed to play Chingy in the car

Borat makes for 'sexy time'

From wielding sex toys while naked to interviewing the American populous, Borat makes us 'like'

Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan

Directed by Larry Charles

Starring Sasha Baron Cohen

Opens Friday, 3 November

Empire Theatres

MATTHEW BARRETT

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Borat is everything a good comedy should be—witty, fast-paced and satisfying. Never mind that it's been internationally reviled for its vulgarity and brutish offensiveness, or condemned so horribly by Kazakhstan's government that their president intends to personally complain to George W Bush on his next visit to the United States. When it boils down, *Borat* is just a movie, and one that appeals to a wide range of comedic tastes. Whether you're looking for low-brow laughs, scatological humour or more subversive political satire, *Borat* delivers like a C-section to a uterus.

Borat is based on *Da Ali G Show*, the brainchild of British comedian and provocateur-extraordinaire Sasha Baron Cohen. In the show, Cohen plays three different characters: a wannabe hipster aptly named Ali G, a gay fashion expert named Bruno and the self-proclaimed "seventh most popular person in Kazakhstan," Borat. There's already been several movie adaptations of the show, like *Spyz* or *Ali G in Da House*, but none that could proudly scroll Borat's name across the proverbial marquee.

Out of the three characters on *Da Ali G Show*, *Borat* is the most blatantly offensive and the most politically incorrect. He's a racist, a sexist, a bigot and a skewed diplomat of Kazakhstani culture and society. He's, for all intents and purposes, a living, breathing, walking asshole with no comprehension or understanding of conventional taboo or politeness. He's a bungling incompetent, insensitive and naïve towards the people and world around him. And he's absolutely freaking hilarious.

The premise of the movie could be followed by a toaster oven. Borat, in his home country of Kazakhstan, is heading to the "US and A" to film a documentary in the hopes of modernizing the Kazakhstani people. But, after watching a single episode of *Baywatch* in his New York hotel room, Borat decides to travel across the United States to the West Coast

in an attempt to marry and "make sexy time" with the vivacious Pamela Anderson.

Along the way, Borat interacts with hapless American streeters, professionals and high-profilers. He interviews a veritable piss-load of

people, from a feminist support group to a senator, a driving instructor to a used car salesman, and a specialist in dinner etiquette (who later sends him to a formal dinner) to Pamela Anderson herself. At one point, he buys a bear and keeps it in the back of an ice cream truck, only to have it scare off little children when they hear the truck's hypnotic jingle.

The sketches are glued together by scenes between Borat and his producer, and usually involve them talking about who they're going to interview next or where they're going. These scenes are mostly here to give the film some structure and the faintest tickle of a plot, perhaps irking some viewers who are expecting more in that particular department. But the

minimal story arc works to preserve the comedic style of the original show, and despite the manufactured nature of the scenes, they eventually come into their own and prove to be some of the most hilarious moments of the film.

One particularly heinous—and might I add, pornographic—scene involves a naked Borat wielding a rubber sex toy, fighting his also-naked producer *Star Trek*-style before chasing him through a hotel and finally wrestling him to the ground in the middle of a packed presentation hall. The whole thing is uncensored, except for bits of Borat, and is visceral enough to leave you stunned for at

least the rest of the movie, if not an entire week.

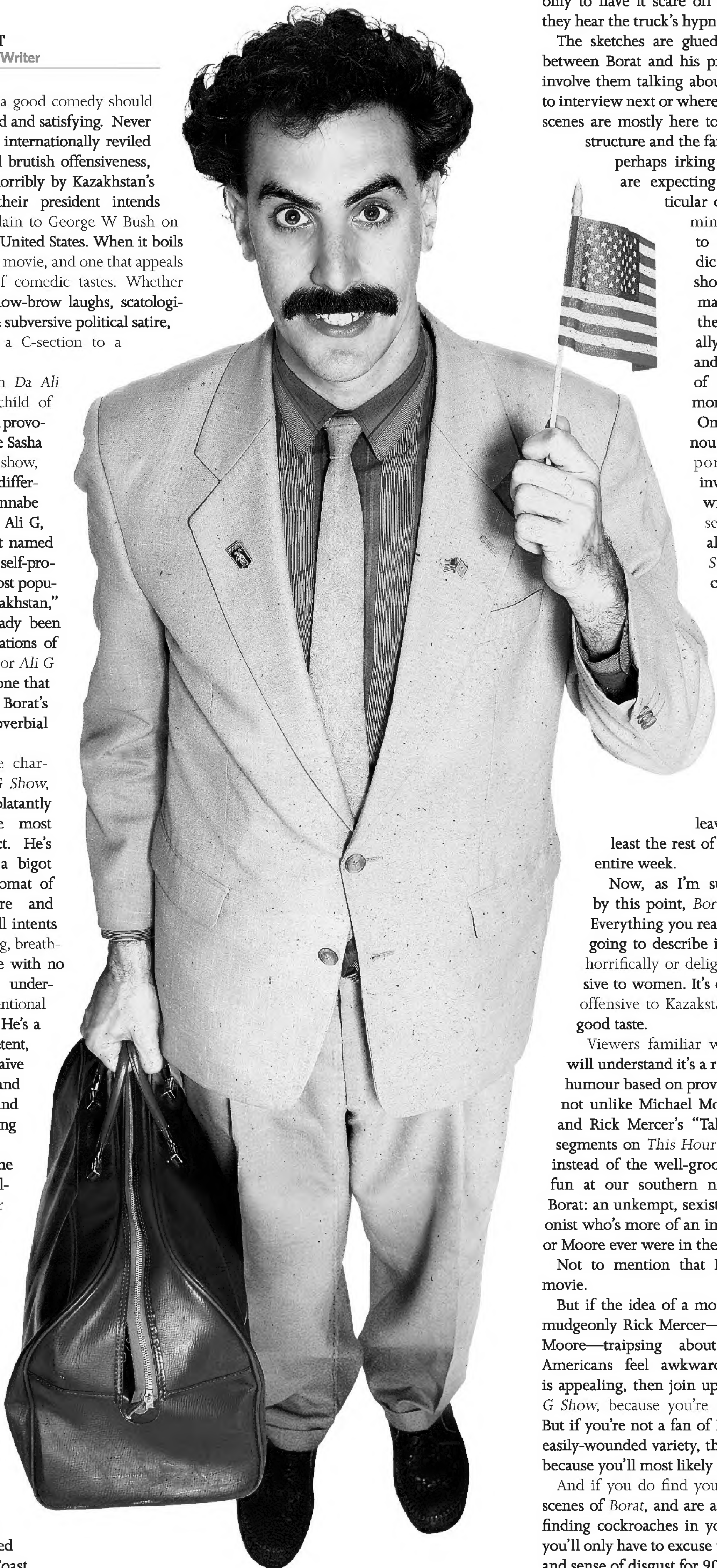
Now, as I'm sure you've gathered by this point, *Borat* isn't for everyone. Everything you read about this movie is going to describe it as offensive, either horrifically or delightfully so. It's offensive to women. It's offensive to Jews. It's offensive to Kazakstanis. It's offensive to good taste.

Viewers familiar with *Da Ali G Show* will understand it's a ruse; a special kind of humour based on provocation and reaction, not unlike Michael Moore's documentaries and Rick Mercer's "Talking to Americans" segments on *This Hour has 22 Minutes*. But instead of the well-groomed Mercer poking fun at our southern neighbours, we have Borat: an unkempt, sexist and racist protagonist who's more of an interloper than Mercer or Moore ever were in their interviews.

Not to mention that Mercer never had a movie.

But if the idea of a more vulgar, more curmudgeonly Rick Mercer—or a funny Michael Moore—traipsing about the US making Americans feel awkward about themselves is appealing, then join up with fans of *Da Ali G Show*, because you're going to love *Borat*. But if you're not a fan of Mercer, or are of the easily-wounded variety, then stay far, far away, because you'll most likely be put off entirely.

And if you do find yourself in the opening scenes of *Borat*, and are about as impressed as finding cockroaches in your bed, take solace: you'll only have to excuse your proper manners and sense of disgust for 90 minutes.



Don Giovanni an opera filled with classy lovin'

Don Giovanni

Directed by Brian Deedrick
Starring Gregory Dahl and Brian Downen
4, 7 and 9 November
Jubilee Auditorium

MATT FREHNER
Editor-in-Chief

"Opera's like scotch. Nobody starts out drinking scotch. In Alberta, it's usually lemon gin," Brian Deedrick says as he sips his homemade coffee and awaits the freezer-delivery boys.

Artistic Director for the Edmonton Opera, Deedrick spends the summer as a tour guide in Germany. During his last stint overseas, however, his '70s-era mustard-orange "hotpoint" freezer decided to go see its maker.

"The meat had that ... grey look too it," he relates.

The pink and purple dashes in his otherwise impeccably coiffed blond hair belie an eccentricity that isn't immediately apparent from Deedrick's well-kept demeanor—that is, until he begins to speak about his latest directing gig, *Don Giovanni*, Mozart's depiction of the last day in the life of history's most famous lover.

"[Giovanni] likes the fat ones in winter, he likes the old ones just to make them feel good about themselves, and he likes the very little skinny ones," Deedrick says. "God knows Don Giovanni would say he's a great lover—

he's most prolific, anyway. When they start announcing how many women he's had and in which countries ... it runs into the thousands.

"I think the guys see [Giovanni] as the ultimate hero; he's never left [a woman] unsatisfied. It's not that he's a rapist. He works at it to make them believe that they've instituted the seduction."

BRIAN DEEDRICK

"He's the world's most politically incorrect lover," Deedrick continues. "We should always disapprove of Giovanni, because—look at that—he just loves women and leaves them behind. But women fall in love with this guy. There's something about him that's so unapologetic, uncomplicated and totally shameless. I think the guys see [Giovanni] as the ultimate hero; he's never left [a woman] unsatisfied. It's not that he's a rapist. He works at it to make them believe that they've instituted the seduction."

Copious lover he may be, but it's on his last day that Giovanni discovers

his greater passion, when he accidentally kills the father of his most recent conquest.

"He's not an evil guy, but he loves his women to distraction," Deedrick says. "And then there's this accidental killing—and he finds out that that just really turns him on. That as rich or as powerful as the eternal orgasm is this orgasmic sensation that comes from taking a life, and it begins to spin out of control over that final day."

According to Deedrick, it's in this story that *Don Giovanni* outshines the common view of opera as conservative, inaccessible and dry. With his production, too, his aim is to push the boundaries of opera—and hopefully affect his audience at the same time.

"To me, the worst thing you can do in the theatre, opera, music or whatever, is that by the time [audience members] get into their car, they're already worried about getting home in time for Lloyd Robertson," he says.

"You've got to make images and ideas stay with people; find something that moves us out of the trough that we're so comfortably in. Can we do that with opera? Who knows. But if we're not pushing our own boundaries, then we don't have the right to be trying to push other people's as well," he deadpans, breaking into a laugh at his own expense. "How profound is that? Zounds! Sometimes my eloquence overwhelms me."



These girls know what Halloween is for. Obviously, it's for dressing up like Harry Potter.

Really, now I'm happy to know that there are classy people out there who share my love for the magical world!

And if you want to volunteer for *Gateway A&E* (meetings Thursdays at 5pm in 3-04 SUB), you won't get your picture published in the paper, but you can pretend to famous.

Or something.

GATEWAY A&E
Living out our Halloween fantasies everyday since 1910



GENERAL MEETING

The Graduate Students' Association will hold a General Meeting at the **PowerPlant Coffee House** on Wednesday, November 8th, at 6:30 pm

All graduate students are invited to attend and participate in the By-Election of

COUNCILLORS-AT-LARGE

who will sit on council as representatives of the graduate student community

Interested in being a councillor-at-large?

Please email a short statement about you and why you want to be a councillor to:
andrea.dalton@ualberta.ca

The Double Inconstancy a funny, fickle mistress

The Double Inconstancy

Directed by Marianne Copithorne
Starring Meredith Bailey, Katherine Gorham, Alana Hawley, Jeffrey Olynek, Stafford Perry and Paul Welch
Runs 2-11 November
Studio Theatre

ASHLEY SCARLETT
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Often the thought of traditional theatre and its somewhat redundant themes can instill feelings of boredom and confusion, making it altogether inaccessible and unenjoyable to audiences. But in the case of Marivaux's *The Double Inconstancy*, when you're making fun of love, innocent young lovers and sexuality, an entertaining evening is undoubtedly in store.

Written in the early 18th century, *The Double Inconstancy* is a romantic comedy that tells the story of a love triangle between a pair of young country bumpkins and the prince of the land. As the story goes, the naïve lovers are brought before the royal court in order to persuade the girl to leave her young love in favour of the prince, who has fallen for her from afar.

Because of its foundation in *commedia dell'arte*, *The Double Inconstancy* is based in a cast of stock characters, meant to represent of a wide array of recognizable personas; and it's through these stereotypes that the play is able to demonstrate the farcical and physical humour that's characteristic of this genre of comedy.

"The characters have their own roles in facilitating the humour, roles which parallel the stereotypical aspects of their stock characters and range from the silly, to the contemplative, to 'lotsy,' the physical-type humor in *commedia dell'arte*," says Alana Hawley, who plays Flaminia.

In many cases, stock characters can become two dimensional and limited in scope, but through the addition of a psychological aspect, Marivaux is able to move beyond the simple characters to make political statements and draw upon the possibility of subtextual meanings.

"Upon first reading the script, it was really fun and I was just really caught up in the light love story. But as I got to know the script, I got to see some of the other things that were coming out of it—like Marivaux's



ERINNE FENWICK

THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR WALKIN' *The Double Inconstancy* play footsies with your heart and sense of humour.

commentary on the political state of the court society in France, or the inner message of what it's like to find real love versus just young love or infatuation," Hawley explains.

Beyond the enchanting love story and hidden meanings, *The Double Inconstancy* employs a design that's crucial to the audience's overall experience.

"The designers have tried to make this world that is very far-out and can't actually be put into a specific

time period," Hawley says. "It's just going to be a wild world [with] big huge brightly coloured wigs, fancy masks that come on and off, far-out lighting and a very postmodern set. It's just really going to be a feast for the eyes."

While the varied aspects of the play come together to create multiple possible experiences, Hawley has a basic hope for what the audience will take away from her show.

"Because there are some interesting

questions that are posed at the end of the script, I hope that upon watching it, the audience will come out looking differently at their own situation in regards to relationships or love," Hawley says. "Or, maybe, even be inspired to find truth or determination in pursuing something that you want. But really, when it comes right down to it, I think that the show is about enjoying oneself, which is really what *comedia delle'arte* was all about."

CAROL OFF

BIG CHOCOLATE

THE INTERNATIONAL COCOA INDUSTRY AND THE MACHINATIONS OF BIG CHOCOLATE

MONDAY, 13 2006

MYER HOROWITZ THEATRE | DOORS 6:30 | LECTURE 7PM

CAROL OFF IS CELEBRATED AS ONE OF THIS COUNTRY'S MOST ACCOMPLISHED JOURNALISTS.

Off will be speaking on her most recent book, "BITTER CHOCOLATE: EXPLORING THE DARK SIDE OF THE WORLD'S MOST SEDUCTIVE SWEET" explores the international cocoa industry and the machinations of Big Chocolate. Off traces the history of the chocolate trade and its evolution under the large corporate directors and discovers the unethical practices creating our sweet fixation. In addition Carol Off is back behind the microphone, currently the host of "As It Happens" on CBC.

TICKETS IN ADVANCE

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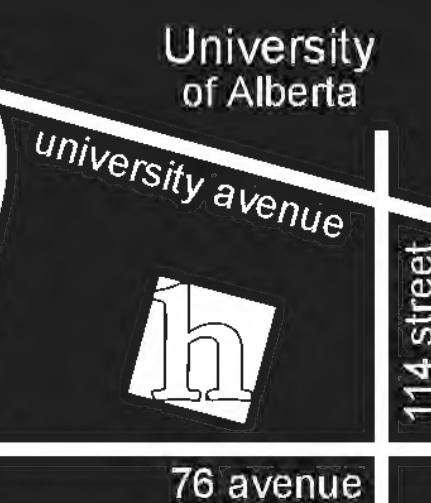
mon-thurs 7am-9pm, fri 7am-11pm, sat 9:30 am-11pm, sun 9:30am-9 pm

This week's live music :

The Edmonton Creative Musician's Collective

A night of fresh and interesting music: original modern jazz compositions and improvisation! Featuring Glen Halls on saxophone, keyboard, and an assortment of world percussion instruments, and joined by percussionist Garry Checora.

Try our popular huevos breakfast wrap for a delicious and healthy way to start your day!



Walkin' with Memphis

Stars' Torquil Campbell discusses leading a life between two musical projects

Memphis

With Panurge and Storyboard
Saturday, 5 November at 8pm
Starlite Room

PAUL BLINOV
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Torquil Campbell is living a double life in the Canadian music scene. Known mostly for co-fronting the indie-pop act Stars, Campbell has recently been dedicating his time to singing for Memphis, another musical project between him and long-time friend Chris Dumont.

Right now, however, he's getting over the double pneumonia which has forced Memphis to cancel some tour dates in Halifax, ultimately halting promotion of their new album, *A Little Place in the Wilderness*. Promising to be "right as rain" by the time he gets to Edmonton, Campbell will still have to take it easy on this trek through Canada.

"Obviously, on this tour, my focus is going to be staying healthy, which is unusual," Campbell laughs, his voice still sounding a bit fragile over the phone. "Most of the time, I've toured by means of just ruining my body, but I think [this tour will] hold a lot of new experiences for me."

The blueprints for Memphis were laid years ago, when a group of friends—including Campbell, Dumont and, notably, Metric's James Shaw—were making music together in the '90s. They eventually split, with Campbell pursuing Stars, Dumont working a carousel in New York and Shaw co-founding Metric. But Campbell and Dumont stayed in touch, later meeting up again in Vancouver, where they eventually recorded and released Memphis' debut album, *I Dreamed We Fell Apart*, in 2004.

"[Chris would] come out [To Vancouver] to escape the heat of New York and just visit me," Campbell explains. "The songwriting was always a part of our hanging out, so it ended up being a summer project much of the time."

Despite being the better known of the duo, Campbell makes it clear that Dumont is largely responsible for Memphis.

"I write the lyrics and sing the



melodies, but the music and the sound of the album is very much his album and his ideas," Campbell says.

I Dreamed We Fell Apart wasn't promoted, nor did Memphis tour at that time due to Campbell's commitment to Stars. Soon afterwards, Stars exploded all over the indie scene, shoving Memphis further onto the back burner for a few years. With Stars still peaking, one might question the timing of a new Memphis release, but Campbell insists the timing is better than ever for audiences to give his lesser-known band a subjective listen.

"At this point, Stars has started writing a new record, but it was a good time for me to tour and put out Memphis because Stars doesn't have anything new out at the moment and we're not

playing shows," Campbell explains. "So it gave Memphis a chance to stand on its own and have people listen to it without too much influence from other works that I've done."

Despite the greater popularity of Stars, Campbell refuses to dismiss Memphis as merely a side project. To him, they're both part of a life he's very eager to lead.

"[Memphis is] not me dishing out some tunes that didn't make it to Stars," Campbell says. "This really is another journey that I'm on. You can't really control when things happen. Stars is a band, and Memphis is a band, but [both are] also my life. It's just people who I'm close to, who I love and have friendships with, and inevitably we end up making music together."



NEAL WILDING

NO, THEY'RE NOT FROM LOST The Islands played to a costumed and energetic crowd Tuesday night at the Starlite.

GOLDEN BEARS & PANDAS SPORTS



YOUR UNIVERSITY
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YOUR SEAT IS READY

Golden Bears & Pandas Basketball

Friday, November 3 vs Thompson Rivers

Saturday, November 4 vs Fraser Valley

Pandas @ 6:00, Golden Bears @ 8:00

Main Gym

492-BEAR / 451-8000 www.bears.ualberta.ca

PROFESSOR OF THE WEEK



DR. YVETTE
D'ENTREMONT
CU ME 322

"Dr d'Entremont is an **incredibly organized** teacher, who has absolute **mastery of the subject matter she teaches**. She helps her students learn by employing different styles of teaching, and will even take us out of class to the lab for **hands-on teacher training**. She also invites useful and informed guests to further our understanding. In addition, Dr. d'Entremont has **great respect for her students**, which is demonstrated through her commitment to teaching.

Mme d'Entremont est une professeure **incroyablement bien organisée qui maîtrise sa matière**. Elle nous aide en utilisant **différents styles d'enseignement**. Elle nous apporte souvent au labo pour faire des expériences et ses invites sont des gens informés et utiles. En gros Mme d'Entremont a un **respect énorme pour ses élèves** qui se démontre dans son enseignement."

MAKE TEACHING MATTER!

NOMINATE YOUR OWN PROFESSOR FOR PROFESSOR OF THE WEEK

Excellent teaching is the foundation of an outstanding undergraduate education, and the university community needs to begin to value everyday achievements in undergraduate teaching.

The Students' Union is looking to recognize professors who demonstrate sincere enthusiasm for teaching undergraduates, innovative methods of engaging students in the learning process and a willingness to go beyond what is normally expected of a professor.

Don't let great teaching go unrecognized.

Nominations can be picked up/submitted at any Faculty Association office or InfoLink desk, or at the SU Executive Office front desk. Nominations can also be emailed to the Associate VP-Academic Tasneem Karbani at avpa@su.ualberta.ca.

Soccer Pandas looking for national bid

ROBIN COLLUM
Sports Staff

The Pandas soccer team are ranked second in the division headed to the Canada West finals in Regina this weekend, determined to come home with tickets to nationals. They've had a successful season so far, and hope repeat some of the Alberta's previous success.

One of the keys to the tournament this weekend will be putting together everything that the team has worked on so far this season, according to Pandas head coach Liz Jepsen.

"It's all down to the players," Jepsen said. "I'm seeing in them a belief in being champions, and they also have the skill set and the experience. We've done everything we could do to get ourselves in the right place, and now it's just a matter of performance on the day."

"I think that that final success is definitely tangible and attainable for us."

The Pandas finished behind the University of Victoria and ahead of the University of British Columbia, Trinity Western University, the University of Calgary and the hosting University of Regina. Of those teams, they've only lost to UVic, though they played to a draw against the Dinos in October.

There are three spots at the CIS finals for teams from Canada West, one of them automatically going to Victoria as host, so the Pandas must be one of the top two teams outside of UVic in order to qualify.

"Our biggest thing is to win our first game. If we do, it will be just so much easier down the road," Jepsen said.



FILE PHOTO: NICK WIEBE

GET IT The ball won't be the only thing the Pandas are chasing this weekend. They're also after a Canada West banner, which they'll hang in the Main Gym.

Still, the Pandas have anything but an easy road, as their first game, on Friday, will be against UBC, who they beat 1-0 at Foote Field earlier in the year.

"We've played them once before this season, and we won on just sheer desire to win. But it's going to be a different game, and they're going to come all fired up because we beat them before," said Jepsen, who expects the match to be difficult. "They have a strong keeper,

who just snuck in last week to surpass our keeper [Caitlin Schmidt] for [most] shutouts. They also have really strong backs, so it's going to be a challenge trying to get past them and get the looks that we need."

This season differs from years past because the University College of the Fraser Valley entered CIS competition. This meant that instead of meeting each team in their conference twice, the Pandas played two fewer games

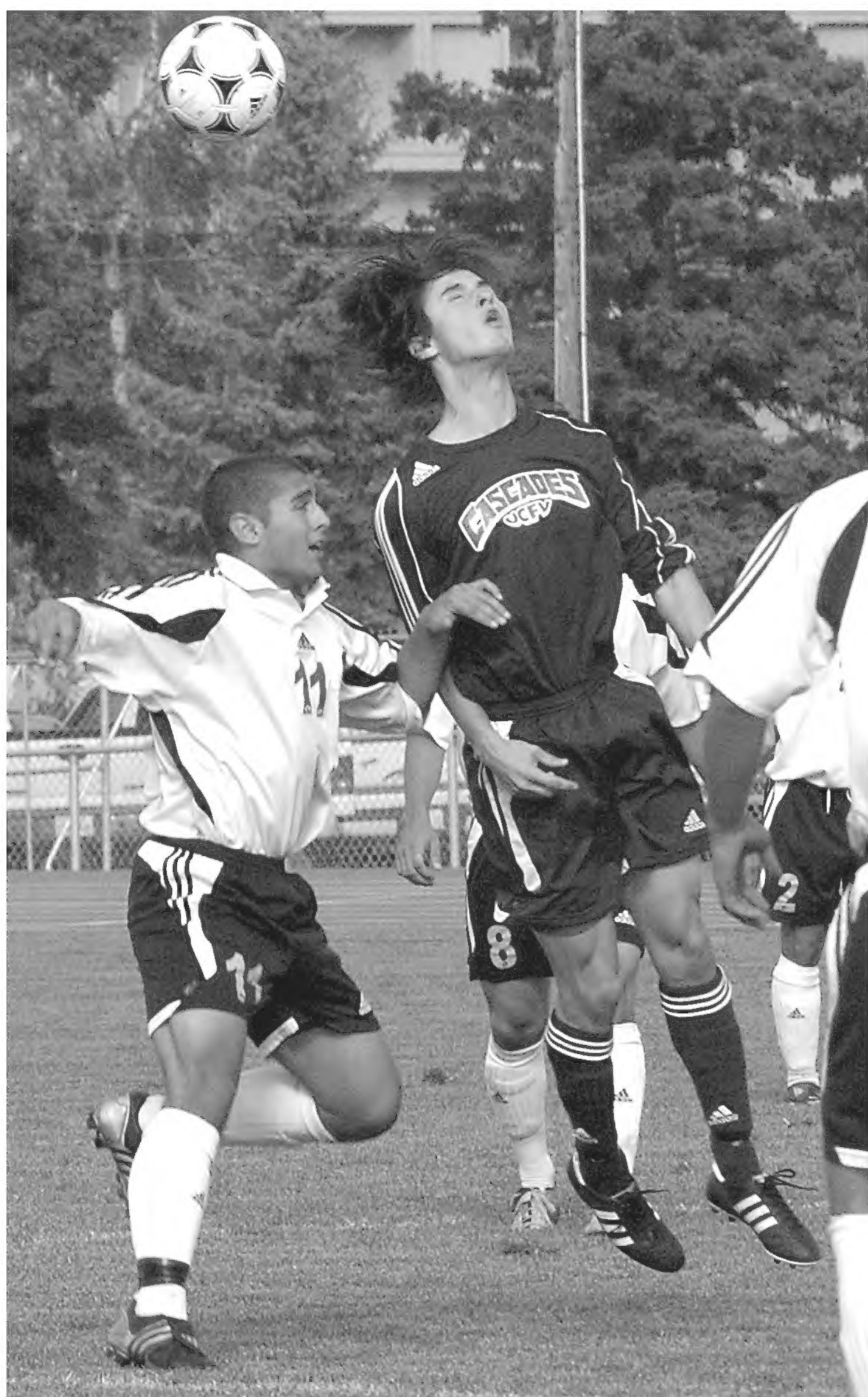
and only saw their BC opponents once.

"It will make for an interesting dynamic because the top teams, except for Calgary and Regina, are teams we've only seen once but who have seen each other a couple of times," Jepsen said. "[The schedule change] is good for the standings, in that we play twice the teams that aren't that strong and get a couple more wins, but it's too bad because it's better for us to

play the better teams."

The Pandas have won seven conference titles in their 23-year history, and have earned seven silver medals at Canada West as well. They won the most recent of their three national titles in 2001. This year, Jepsen and her team wants to repeat at least some of that glory.

"We would be disappointed with anything less than getting to CIS [championships]," she said.



FILE PHOTO: LAUREN STIEGLITZ

TOP OF THE FOOD CHAIN Other teams are gunning for Alberta this weekend.

Bears put undefeated record on the line hosting soccer playoffs

NICK FROST
Sports Staff

Undefeated. Just one of the many positive words that can be used to describe the Golden Bear's soccer team this past regular season; a season that saw them finish with a 9-0-5 record in an extremely challenging Canada West conference. Impressive, considering Alberta ran into some tough opponents along the way, including two meetings—and victories—against the defending CIS champion UBC Thunderbirds.

While trying to go an entire season without losing even a single match might seem like an obvious strategy for a team, it's one that's otherwise difficult to execute. However, from day one of the 2006/07 season, the Bears have felt that they were capable of achieving such a feat.

"When we started the season, we went with the objective that we were going to try to win all our games," assistant coach Nick Holt said. "I think with us hosting Nationals, it's quite easy to go the other way—you have that comfort level that you know you're going to make it as the host team. I think that the fact that we managed to go undefeated, in a really competitive league, is a definite positive going into the playoffs.

We've spared a few draws, but it's a real positive that we've managed to keep everything together."

Being undefeated has certainly paid off in a big way as Alberta finished atop the Canada West standings and is currently the top-ranked team in the country. Their conference win has them hosting the Canada West playoffs this weekend. However, the accolades for their season have done little to faze the team.

"We don't look at [the number-one ranking] as pressure," Holt explained. "I put more stock into our performances over the course of the season, and the fact that we managed to put a good run together. So, the ranking doesn't really make a difference. It's nice and we respect it; but I certainly don't think it's what we're truly aiming for."

To others, though—like Canada West's leading goal-scorer, Bears midfielder Junior Castrillon-Rendon—having your team at the top of a statistical chart isn't something worth dwelling on, unless you have something to show for it.

"We just try not to think about [being on top]," Castrillon-Rendon admitted. "We're confident, but we still know that we have to get the work done. The only reason that we got the record that we did during the regular

season was through working hard; we can't stop putting in the effort just because we were undefeated. If we keep doing our thing, we'll hopefully, at the end of the day, be able to call ourselves national champions and say, 'Yeah, that was cool'. But, until then, we just keep it out of our minds and continue to work hard."

Alberta takes their undefeated record and number-one spot into this weekend's Canada West Championships and will face the Trinity Western Spartans—a team they tied twice this season, including their last game of the season—in their semifinal matchup.

"They're very strong defensively," Holt said. "We've got to look for ways to unravel that defence. Also, in every game that we've played against them, they've scored first; so, one of the other things that we want to look at is getting ourselves the first lead, and then protecting it."

The Championships go at 11:15am on Saturday as UBC and Calgary square off in the other semifinal before the Bears hit the pitch at 1pm. The bronze medal match will be at 11:15am Sunday, with the gold to follow at 1pm. The top two teams that aren't Alberta will advance to the national championships, held here next weekend.



FILE PHOTO: PETE YEE

SQUEEZING BY Alberta's Trish Ariss (dark) will be counted on to be an inside prescence against UCFV and TRU.

Panda hoopsters prepared for season tip-off versus BC foes

CIS newbies UCFV and Thompson Rivers open the season in the Main Gym

JANELLE SLOYCHUK
Sports Writer

With a lot to prove after opening the season ranked ninth in the country, the Pandas basketball team kicks off their regular season play by hosting the Thompson Rivers University Wolfpack and University College of the Fraser Valley Cascades this weekend.

The Pandas are lead by a maturing bunch of third-years, many of whom have seen significant playing time as starters over their first two seasons with the team. But despite the team's maturation, interim head coach Scott Edwards is careful to acknowledge Alberta's deficient characteristics.

"We're certainly not a big team—that's a weakness we have, and just learning how to win big basketball games has been a problem for us," Edwards said. "We're just working on our composure and learning how to play every possession like it's the last possession in a game."

While height should be a non-factor against the Wolfpack, a team that boasts only two six-footers, the Cascades present an entirely different problem. In their first season in CIS play, coming over from the British Columbia College Athletic Association, the Fraser Valley lineup consists of ten returning players, including all of last season's starters.

UCFV's Heather Boer, a 6'2" forward who averaged 6.8 rebounds per

game last season, and Michelle Buhler who led the BCCAA in scoring with 15.7 point per game, should also offer a challenge for the Pandas.

"We're certainly not a big team—that's a weakness we have, and just learning how to win big basketball games has been a problem for us."

**SCOTT EDWARDS,
PANDAS HEAD COACH**

"I know [Thompson Rivers is] going to come ready to play," Edwards said. "They've got a new coach who I know is an excellent coach out of BC and they'll play a high tempo of basketball."

Last season, their first in CIS play, TRU finished last in the Pacific division while Alberta earned their first playoff berth since 2002/03. Since Alberta is at the opposite end of the spectrum from their weekend opponents—the Pandas are a dark-horse contender for the national title while TRU and UCFV are just hoping to be competitive—the Pandas may be focusing more on their own game than that of their opponents.

"We've got to go in with no expectations, play our game and not worry about our opponent," third-year point guard Ashley Wigg said. "[Our weakness] would just be our inconsistency right now, but it's the beginning of the season and it's coming along already."

Wigg has every reason to be optimistic. Last season she was fourth in the country in assists and steals in leading the Pandas to the post-season. After having spent the past two years learning from the veterans and showing immaturity at times, Wigg and her fellow third-years now find themselves the veterans and being relied upon to tutor the eight new Pandas on the team this season.

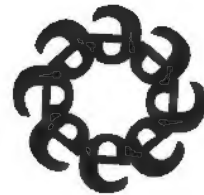
"I wouldn't say that our age is a weakness, I would say it's one of our strengths," Wigg said. "We're coming together really quick; we have a lot of young bodies that people don't know about."

"We can be a really athletic, entertaining team to watch," Edwards said of his youthful lineup that features only two players above their third year. "We really push the ball. We play good high-tempo basketball defensively, and I'm excited about where we can get to this year with our athleticism."

TRU gets first dibs on the Pandas at 6pm on Friday, while UCFV will draw the Albertans in their second CIS game on Saturday at the same time. Both games go in the Main Gym.

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Pandas to defend McCrae Cup in field hockey finals

DAN PLOUFFE
CUP Sports Bureau Chief

MONTRÉAL (CUP)—The University of British Columbia Thunderbirds will look to become just the second host team in the past 13 years to capture the CIS field hockey national championship on their home field when they welcome the four other best clubs in Canada from 2–5 November in Vancouver.

The hometown jinx bit the Thunderbirds last year when they lost in the national final to the tenth shooter—the University of Alberta's Niki Baumann—in penalty strokes after the teams played to a 1–1 tie in regulation.

The University of Victoria Vikes were the last host to win in 2000, and will seek their record eleventh championship this weekend after missing last year's tournament for the first time since it began in 1979. The Toronto Varsity Blues cruise into town with an undefeated record in Ontario play, while their cross-town rivals, the York Lions, will join them.

The 2006 tournament reunites the five programs in the country that have traditionally been the strongest, with Alberta, the defending champions, being the least experienced of the bunch in only their twelfth nationals appearance.

The teams will play each other in a round-robin tournament from Thursday to Saturday, with Sunday reserved for the medal matches.

UBC Thunderbirds

Seed: First
Conference: CW
2006 record: 5-1-3
Playoffs: 1-0-1
Nationals trip: 23rd
Medals: 9 gold, 5 silver, 4 bronze

The reigning CIS silver medallists, the UBC Thunderbirds (6-1-4), have high expectations as they make their final preparations for this weekend's tournament. Led by Canada West Player of the Year Christine De Pape, the conference champions enter the tournament with only one loss on the season, a 1–0 setback to UVic on 15 October, which they promptly avenged one week later in the Canada West final.

With only nine goals allowed over the course of eleven games this year, strong defence will continue to be the T-Birds' trademark as they welcome the opposition to Wright Field.

—Boris Korby, the *Ubysses*

Toronto Varsity Blues

Seed: Second
Conference: OUA
2006 record: 12-0-2
Playoffs: 2-0
Nationals trip: 23rd
Medals: 7 gold, 3 silver, 6 bronze

The Toronto Varsity Blues cruised to a 12-0-2 regular season record, outscoring their Ontario opponents by a 62–5 margin. Cailie O'Hara and Amanda Treacy led the conference champs' offence with twelve goals apiece, while defender Malinda Hapuarachchi and goalkeeper Sarah Goertzen are a force on the back end. The Varsity Blues are the only eastern team to ever have won a CIS title, but haven't done so since 1996.

—Dan Plouffe, CUP Sports Bureau Chief

Victoria Vikes

Seed: Third
Conference: CW
2006 record: 6-0-3
Playoffs: 1-1
Nationals trip: 25th
Medals: 10 gold, 7 silver, 5 bronze

UVic (7-1-3) just may be the favourites heading into the championships, despite being seeded third. The team outscored their Canada West opponents 25–6 this season, only losing once. Unfortunately for the islanders, that 2–0 loss came in the conference championship game against UBC.

The Vikes will be eager to prove they can win when it counts at the nationals, and will be looking for big goals from Canada West's leading goal scorer and Rookie of the Year, Robyn Pendleton. Opponents will need to beat goaltender Danielle Wilson if they want to win, which won't be easy—she posted a regular season goals-against-average of 0.57.

—David Karp, the *Martlet*

Alberta Pandas

Seed: Fourth
Conference: CW
2006 record: 3-4-2
Playoffs: 0-1-1
Nationals trip: twelfth
Medals: 1 gold, 1 silver, 5 bronze

After a 3-5-3 season that made them look like anything but the defending national champions, the University of Alberta Pandas will be out to prove their banner wasn't a fluke at nationals. All three victories on the season came against the Calgary Dinos, the



FILE PHOTO: JACOB EDENLOFF

ONE OF THESE DOESN'T BELONG The Pandas hope to turn a corner on their season as they defend their national title.

doormats of the four-team Canada West conference, and Alberta managed only a 0-2-2 record against UBC and was 0-3-1 against Victoria.

In search of a repeat, the Pandas are led by third-year midfielder Erin Mason, who scored five goals in Canada West conference play, and fifth-year goaltender Sarah Houlihan—the hero of last year's championship run.

Head coach Carla Somerville was once again named Canada West Coach of the Year for the third-straight time, and Houlihan won the Gail Wilson Outstanding Contributor

award. Mason and Davinder Bal were named to the all-Conference team. It's Mason's second consecutive appearance on the list.

—Paul Owen, the *Gateway*

York Lions

Seed: Fifth
Conference: OUA
2006 record: 10-2-2
Playoffs: 1-1
Nationals trip: 20th
Medals: 5 silver, 2 bronze

The York Lions (11-3-2) have been on

fire this year, dropping just two regular-season games. Despite this envious streak, they were unable to defeat their nemesis, the Toronto Varsity Blues, to whom the Lions lost 1–0 in the Ontario University Athletics final. York's first game at nationals will be a rematch against their cross-town rivals.

The Lions took full advantage of playing at home for the OUA championships when they handled Guelph in the semifinals by a 3–0 score to secure a berth in the national championships in Vancouver.

—Precious Yutangco, *Excalibur*



**Even Ross Prusakowski
looks better in the NHL than
Rem Murray.**

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TREND HIRES ON AN ONGOING BASIS

Forces aim for CIS athletes

JOSH WINGROVE
The Eyeopener

TORONTO (CUP)—CIS has signed a \$500 000 advertising and recruiting agreement with the armed Canadian Armed Forces.

The contract guarantees the military the opportunity to advertise and recruit at any CIS event, which has in turn sparked outcry from professors who say athletes are “sitting ducks” for recruiters.

The military’s marketing campaign aims to recruit smart, physically fit student athletes into service as officers.

“It’s a perfect fit. Those are the kinds of people that we want to attract and who we need,” said John Williston, director of marketing for the Canadian Armed Forces.

The three-year contract won’t force athletes to sit down with recruiters, but will give recruiters a spot at every national CIS event.

“The Forces people will be there at banquets, giving out awards. They will be there at games ... to sit with athletes—those who want to—and discuss possible opportunities with the Canadian Forces,” said Peter Metuzals, CIS director of marketing.

But Ryerson University sociology professor Fiona Whittington-Walsh said the contract would make athletes susceptible to well-trained recruiters.

“They seem to be very vulnerable to the lure of the military. They can finish their studies and have a

wonderful job and all this. Meanwhile, our soldiers keep coming back in body bags from Afghanistan,” Whittington-Walsh said.

“It shows that obviously our stay in Afghanistan is not a short one and they’re in desperate need of providing more disciplined bodies ... I don’t think the military should have any place on campuses for recruitment,” she added.

“In bidding on this contract, the CIS is saying, ‘We’re prepared to deliver to the military our captive audience of university athletes, so they can be recruited.’”

**JIM TURK,
CAUT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Since 2002, 42 Canadian soldiers have been killed in Afghanistan, including Private Mark Graham, 33, a Hamilton native and Canadian Olympic track athlete. 13 soldiers stationed in Edmonton and one from Wainwright are also among those who have died.

“It’s sort of sad that, for a little bit of money, they’d be delivering athletes to the military,” said Jim Turk, executive

director of the Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT).

According to Turk, the CIS holds a monopoly on access to Canada’s 12 000 university athletes, and isn’t acting in their best interests.

“What’s offensive here is that CIS has privileged access to Canadian university athletes. In bidding on this contract, the CIS is saying, ‘We’re prepared to deliver to the military our captive audience of university athletes, so they can be recruited,’” Turk said.

Such a contract exploits student athletes, especially if the CIS is, as Turk said, “providing opportunity for people to sign up to be killed.”

The money will subsidize both team travel costs and production of 25 nationally televised CIS games.

The military and CIS have partnered before, with the Forces being a sponsor at individual events, but this would mark the first large marketing deal between the two organizations.

Students can already enrol in the Regular Officer Training Plan, which pays tuition, books and a salary in exchange for five years of service after graduation. Each campaign recruits both behind-the-lines personnel and soldiers, Metuzals said.

“One would have to assume that athletes are savvy enough to know that if they want to listen, they can listen,” Metuzals said. “All we’re doing is opening the door. It’s up to them to go through it.”

PLEASE SEE OWEN ♦ PAGE 6

SPORTS SHORTS

Written by Ross Prusakowski, Paul Owen and Scott Lilwall

Swimming

After losing out on the West Coast last weekend, the Bears and Pandas swimmers are staying in province this weekend and trekking down to Calgary to face the Lady and Gentleman Dinos in a dual meet. Alberta will have a tough time knocking off either of the Calgary teams who both finished second in the CIS last year and are perennially one of the best programs in the nation. However, look for freshman Panda Katarina Symes and Bears team captain Jian-lok Chang—who have both already qualified for nationals after only two meets—to continue their strong performances. Also, junior national team member Doug Rawlick is an up-an-comer to watch, according to head coach Bill Humby.

Pandas Hockey

This weekend also sees the tenth-ranked Manitoba Bisons hosting the undefeated, second-ranked Pandas in Winnipeg. Alberta is fresh off a bye week and looking to restart a punishing offence that’s scored 41 goals in just six conference games, while the team has only conceded four goals in that same span.

It’s a shame that Yahoo! Fantasy Hockey doesn’t include Pandas forward Lindsay McAlpine because her ten goals and 21 points might have allowed Prusakowski to actually earn a win.

Pandas Volleyball

After only dropping one set in their regular season opener last weekend, the Pandas head to Regina to take on the Cougars, who haven’t actually played a regular season game yet. Given that the flatlanders went 0-3 in the pre-season, Pandas kill leader Tiffany Dodds and her

64 kills should make short work of Regina this weekend.

Bears Volleyball

The second-ranked and 12-1 overall Bears are also skipping into Regina to face the Cougars for a pair of games. Like their female counterparts, the male Cougars have yet to play their first game this season and only played a single game—one they lost—in the pre-season. It looks like it could be a rough weekend for Regina as they struggle to work out the kinks in their game while conference hitting-percentage leader Derek Proudfoot and his mates are playing together like a finely tuned instrument. Of course, that instrument is also a leading contender for a national title.

Bears Basketball

The Golden Bears will open their season up at home against the Thompson Rivers Wolfpack on Friday at 8pm and the University College of the Fraser Valley Cascades on Saturday at 8pm. Despite it being TRU’s second year in CIS and UCFV’s first, the Bears should be well acquainted with their players as three of their freshmen are from BC high schools, and three more have transferred in from programs in the BCCAA, the league UCFV played in last season.

The six newbies have helped veteran Bear post Scott Gordon and company compile a 6-3 record in exhibition play and will be looking to improve upon the 10-10 conference record they posted last season.

Fantasy Hockey

So the powerful orbs of Paul Owen dispatched Amanda Ash’s Sexy Sticks by a 6-2 score and led the league with 23 goals, seven more than Amanda in second. With Ilya Kovalchuk rounding into his typical, awesome self, my team is set up to steamroll Managing Editor Chloé Fedio’s gaffers this week. The matchup is personal as Chloé has refused to trade Henrik Zetterberg to Paul all year and has

been adamant in pushing a “Don’t trade with Paul Owen, don’t trust Paul Owen” strategy for her squad. Paul will take vengeance by feasting on the fantasy blood of her fantasy players.

CFL Football

For the first time in 34 years, the Edmonton Eskimos will be left sucking sideline as the Roughriders travel across the plains to the desolate cesspool that some neanderthals affectionately call “Cowtown.”

If Saskatchewan’s 5 November match-up against the Stampeders follows play-off tradition, we can look forward to an inconsistent effort by the Riders, capped off by a heartbreaking screw-up in the final seconds of the game.

But, at the very least, when the Riders are handed their inevitable loss, we won’t be the only ones with the pale look of dashed Grey Cup hopes.

And a depressed Green and Golder is enough to warm up any bleak November day.

Auto Racing

With a 1300km drive to Winnipeg on tap for Thursday and a promise to make it in twelve hours, I might break Chloé’s Gateway record for most blatant disregard for traffic laws when she was stopped going 60 km/h over the limit on the way to Vancouver last year. I feel it’s my solemn goal to be the first of the six cars to arrive in “Whiskey Papa Golf.” It’s probably a good thing that, by the time you’re reading this, I’ll be outside the province.

Shorts

U of A sports information director Matt Gutsch felt compelled to inform me that were he to wear spandex shorts like the Pandas volleyball team, his ass would look fantastic. I, of course, rejected the truth of such a claim and demanded he prove it by donning said shorts in an exclusive photo spread. The challenge has yet to be met.

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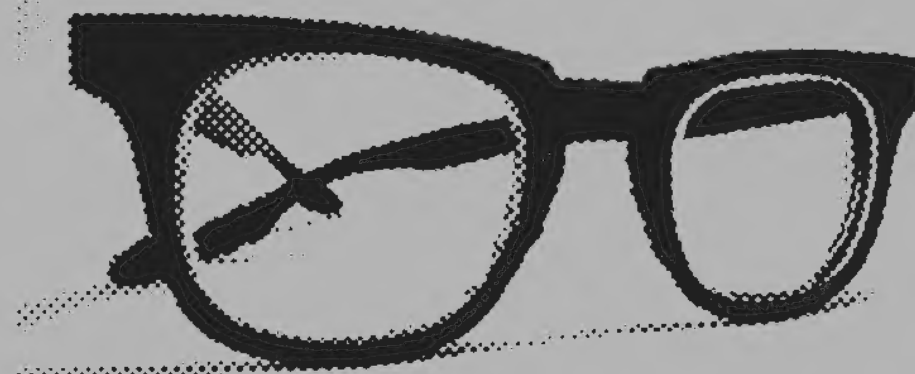


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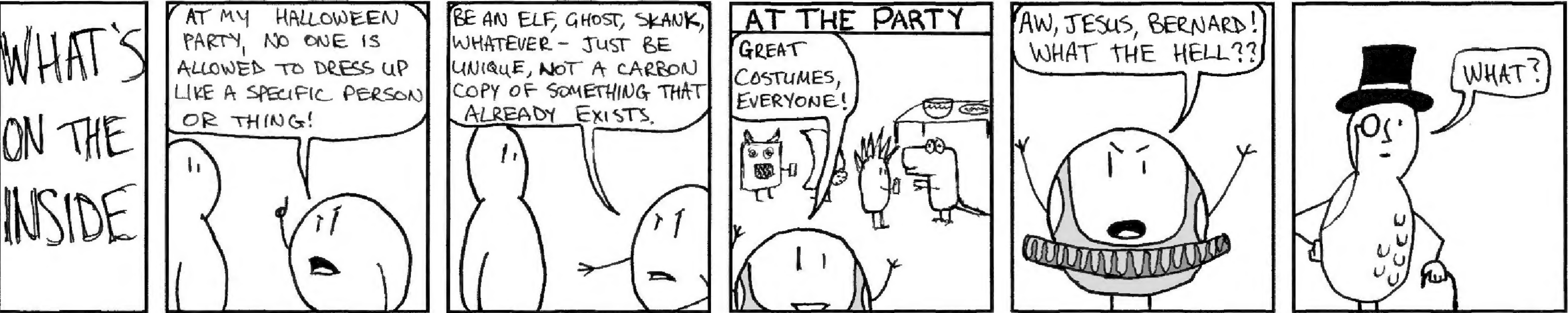
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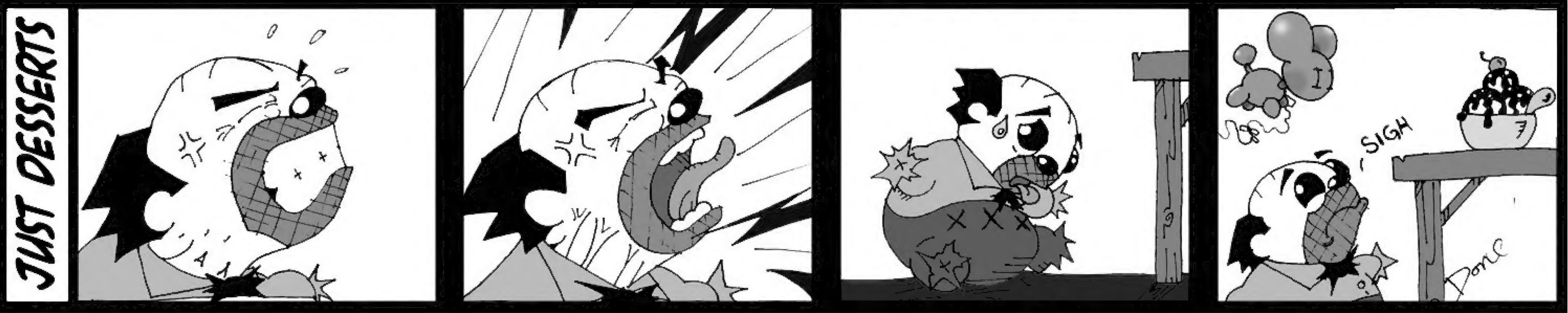
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compiled by Scott C Bourgeois
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Across

- 1 oz vodka, 3/4 oz peach schnapps, cranberry juice, grapefruit juice
3. 2 oz cognac, 1/2 oz Cointreau, 1 oz lemon juice
5. 1 1/2 oz tequila, 1/2 oz triple sec, 1 oz lime juice, salt
7. 1 1/2 oz vodka, 3 oz tomato juice, 1 dash lemon juice, 1/2 tsp Worcestershire sauce, 3 dashes Tabasco sauce
9. ginger ale, orange juice, 3cl grenadine syrup
10. champagne, 2 oz orange juice
11. 1 oz Bailey's irish cream, 1 oz lime juice
13. 1 oz vodka, 1/2 oz triple sec, 1/2 oz lime juice, 1/2 oz cranberry juice, lime wedge
15. 2 oz melon liqueur, 2 oz blue curacao, fill with 7-Up, 1 slice lime
18. 1 shot Seagram 7, 6 oz 7-Up, ice
22. Kahlua, banana liqueur, milk
25. 4cl lemon juice, 1 dash grenadine, 2cl orange juice, 2cl cherry heering, 2cl white rum, 6cl black rum, 2cl 151 proof rum
27. 2 oz gin, 5 oz tonic water, 1 lime wedge
28. 2 oz rum, 6 oz milk, 1 tsp powdered sugar, 1 egg, nutmeg
30. 1/2 oz amaretto, 1/2 oz Southern Comfort, 2 oz orange juice, 2 oz 7-Up
31. 1 1/2 oz vodka, Clamato juice, 3 dashes Tabasco sauce, 3 dashes worcestershire sauce
33. 3/4 oz green crème de menthe, 3/4 oz white crème de cacao, 3/4 oz light cream
34. 1 shot sake, 1 glass beer
36. shot of whiskey, glass of beer

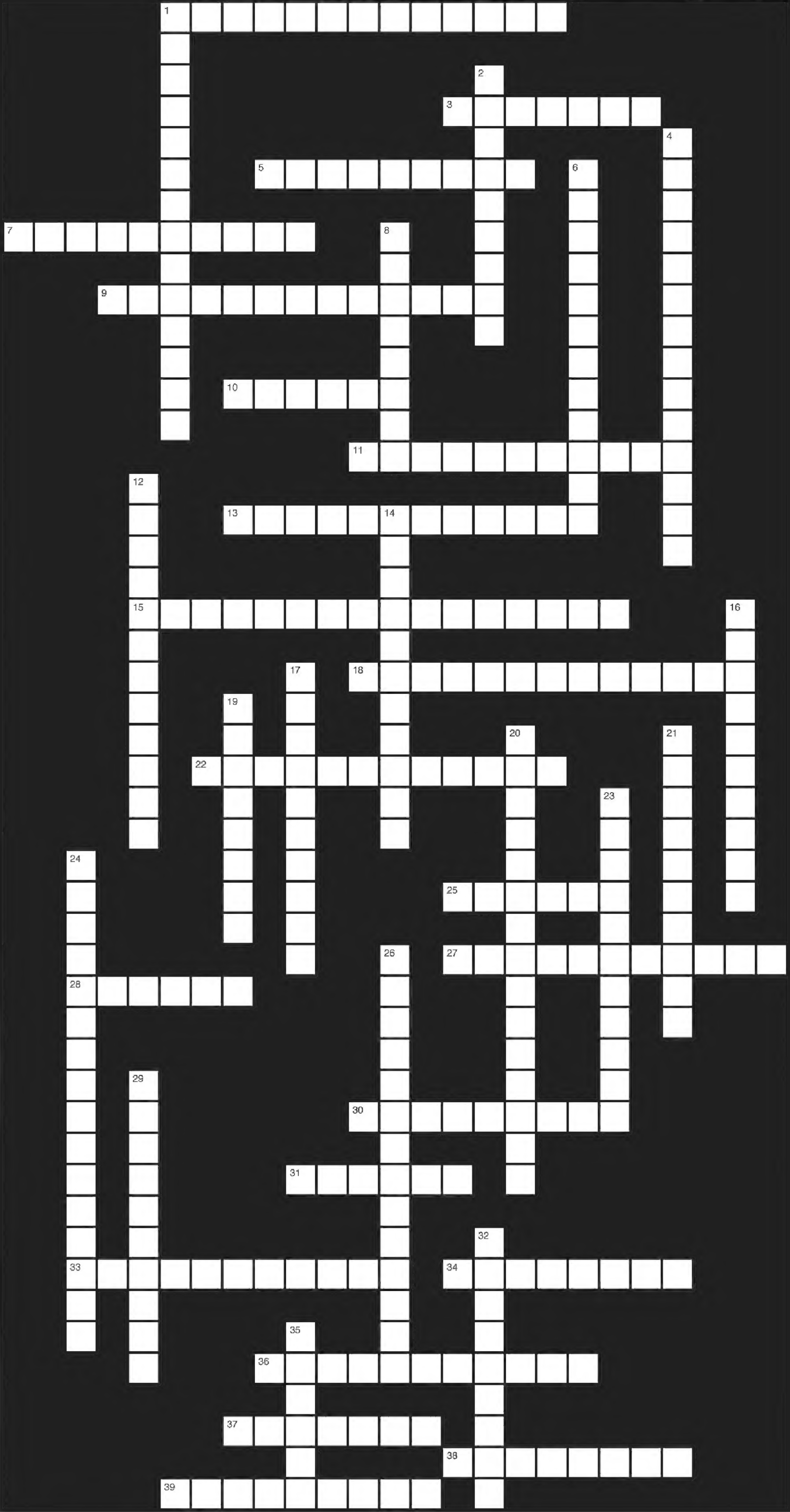
37. 2 1/2 oz gin, 1 1/2 tsp dry vermouth, 1 twist lemon peel
38. 5 oz grapefruit juice, 1 1/2 oz gin, 1/4 tsp salt
39. 1 1/2 oz scotch, 1/2 oz drambuie, 1 twist lemon peel

Down

1. 1/2 oz Bailey's irish cream, 1/2 oz butterscotch schnapps
2. 4 mint sprigs, 2 1/2 oz bourbon, 1 tsp powdered sugar, 2 tsp water, mint leaf garnish
4. 1 oz peach schnapps, 1 tsp Bailey's Irish cream, 1/2 tsp grenadine
6. 3/4 oz Kahlua, 1 1/2 oz vodka
8. 1 oz vodka, 1 oz triple sec, 1 oz lemon juice
12. 3/4 oz Kahlua, 1 1/2 oz vodka, milk
14. 1 part ginger ale, 1 part grape juice, 1 part vodka, 1 part 188 proof grain alcohol
16. 1 glass apple cider, 1 dash butterscotch schnapps
17. vodka, Sprite, lime juice
19. Kahlua, milk
20. 1oz vodka, 1 1/2 oz Bailey's Irish Cream, 1/2 oz Kahlua
21. 4 oz rum, 8 oz Coca-Cola
23. 2 oz vodka, orange juice
24. 1 oz vodka, 1/2 oz Galliano, 4 oz orange juice
26. 2 measures tequila, orange juice, 2 dashes grenadine
29. 1/3 peach schnapps, 1/3 orange juice, 1/3 lemonade
32. 3/4 oz sweet vermouth, 2 1/2 oz blended bourbon, dash Angostura bitters
35. 1 1/2 oz scotch, 3/4 sweet vermouth, 1 dash Angostura bitters, 1 maraschino cherry



CROSSWORD



THE GATEWAY

volume XCVII number 16 ♦ the official student newspaper at the university of alberta ♦ www.gateway.ualberta.ca ♦ thursday, 2 november, 2006



JACKSON HINTON

MOM WOULD APPROVE Kid Koala twisted some knobs and shuffled some records, making music like a finger painting.

U of A re-evaluates admission policies

NATALIE CLIMENHAGA
Senior News Editor

The idea that more and more students could be applying to Canadian universities in the fall of their grade-twelve year is being viewed by some as premature and unnecessary. But according to Carole Byrne, University of Alberta Vice-Provost and Registrar, the use of early admissions is nothing new, as the University was one of the first schools in Canada to introduce the use of early conditional admission.

An *Edmonton Journal* editorial “Leave Gr 11 alone” published on 18 October highlighted the disadvantages of having universities use early admission programs, stating their use puts undue pressure on high-school students.

“There are practical advantages, letting students and families plan ahead. But there’s another concern—that of increased pressure on younger high-school students already facing a highly competitive postsecondary world,” the editorial wrote.

However, Byrne said the use of early admissions shouldn’t be something to be afraid of.

“Everybody has been talking about admitting in Grade 11,” Byrne said. “We’re looking to see if Grade 11 is a good predictor of Grade 12, but it’s not necessarily going to change the way we do admissions.”

Currently, only a small group of students are given early admission at

the U of A, those being full diploma IB students. For the remainder of students, final admission is given at the same time across the board: when high school transcripts become available.

“We’re looking to see if Grade 11 is a good predictor of Grade 12, but it’s not necessarily going to change the way we do admissions.”

**CAROLE BYRNE,
U OF A VICE-PROVOST
AND REGISTRAR**

“We conditionally admit students starting in October, November and by December usually we have already admitted up to 1400 or 1500 of the 5000–7000 students who eventually come here,” Byrne explained, stating it’s very rare for the University to have to later revoke or reverse admission.

“Basically nothing is changing from that point of view, we do currently do early final admission for a small group of students [and] we may look at doing a little further.”

This year, the U of A started a task force on admissions, which Byrne explained will mainly focus on eliminating any unnecessary admission requirements or barriers high-school

student might face.

Regular admissions at the U of A are fairly late in the year compared to peer institutions, with the U of A having a regular application deadline of 1 May and a deadline of documents for 15 June. This means that while students may be being given conditional admission, they may not be enrolled at the U of A until August.

“For students who are in a more financially unstable state the late admission deadline is really challenging to plan for in terms of making sure your loans are in and placing them and that kind of thing,” Students’ Union Vice-President (Academic) Amanda Henry explained.

Henry also noted that for scholastically advantaged students—people in the top one or two per cent of their class—the U of A is really behind the curve on guaranteeing final acceptance, especially to highly competitive programs like engineering or some of the fine arts degrees, as the student will probably go to the institution that guaranteed them acceptance first.

“Say somebody with a 97 per cent average coming out of high school applies at the U of A, the U of T and McGill, whoever gets back to them first is going to be who gets that student if they are financially able to move around the country,” Henry said.

PLEASE SEE **ADMISSIONS** ♦ PAGE 4

Hopes still rising at Mount Royal College

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Managing Editor

Mount Royal College will soon make the conversion to a degree-granting institution, opening the door for the school to become Calgary’s second university, Alberta’s Minister of Advanced Education announced last week.

Dave Marshall, President of the college, said this process has been going on for over three years and that the province’s commitment is welcomed news.

“It’s actually a little strange that Calgary has grown the way it has and still has only one university,” Marshall said. The city of one million has five postsecondary institutions, mostly colleges. Edmonton, however, has three universities and a handful of colleges.

According to recent report compiled by SAIT, Mount Royal College, Alberta College of Art & Design, Bow Valley College and the University of Calgary, Edmonton has received the 11 473 more provincially funded college and university student spaces than the five Calgary institutions combined, who collectively turned away about 16 000 students for admission this fall. The report was based on 2004/05 figures.

It’s hoped that Mount Royal’s ability to grant degrees will raise the number of university spaces and help alleviate some of the strain on the city’s schools.

“We should be increasing access right across the province, not just in any particular city—but having said that, Mount Royal’s growth is pretty modest,” Marshall said, adding that the institution plans on growing by 2500 students over the next seven years.

“I think we’re doing our part, but I would certainly never begrudge what another institution in our province would achieve,” he added.

But Dave Taylor, Liberal critic for Advanced Education and MLA for Calgary-Currie, is concerned that giving colleges and technical institutes degree-granting status without going through the proper steps to ensure the degrees are recognized out-of-province produces “university grads on the cheap.”

“The government of Alberta has been quite eager to give [colleges] degree-granting status because a college can turn out a baccalaureate degree graduate cheaper than a university can, but cheap isn’t always good,” Taylor said.

PLEASE SEE **MRC** ♦ PAGE 2

U of A prof nominated for GG literary award

AMANDA ASH
Arts & Entertainment Editor

When it comes to the status of University departments, the English program isn’t always the most sought after vocation, but following being nominated for the Governor General’s Literary Award for her non-fiction work *The Half-Lives of Pat Lowther*, professor Christine Wiesenthal is turning heads in the literary direction.

On 16 October, Wiesenthal received a call from her publisher in Toronto, who told her that the book had been chosen as one of the five finalists in the non-fiction category. The nomination will earn her a quick \$1000, but from Wiesenthal’s perspective, just being on the list of finalists is a reward in itself.

“I was very excited,” Wiesenthal recalled. “It was really wonderful news, particularly because the book came out as a fairly small print. The soft cover is coming out now, but for that reason, it hasn’t had a huge amount of exposure, so for it to make it onto the shortlist is really

thrilling.”

Wiesenthal’s book is a biography based on the life of Pat Lowther, a poet from British Columbia who was murdered by her husband in 1975. Wiesenthal explains that, since she writes poetry herself, covering Lowther’s life in a way that allowed her to selectively shape and edit the truth, as well as rethink the whole genre of biography, was a challenge. But in the end, Wiesenthal’s happy it’s paying off.

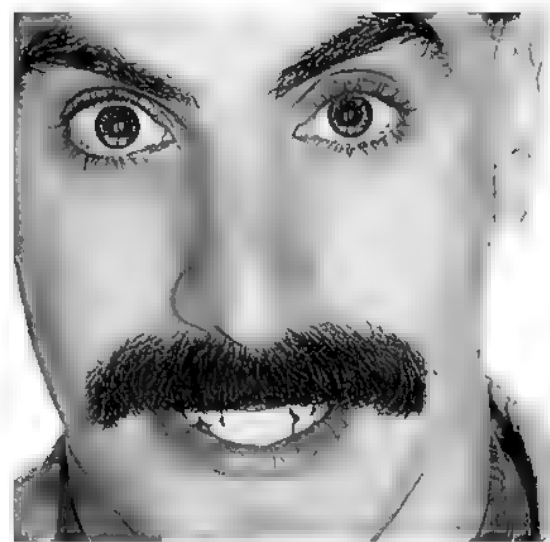
“It’s a validation of eight years of work, and a validation of a poet who’s been underappreciated in a number of respects,” Wiesenthal explained. “[Lowther] is a poet and a writer worth reading today. It’s great that [the book] has a spotlight on Canadian poetry, which is a subject that we don’t hear about all that often.”

And while Wiesenthal feels lucky to have had the chance to research and explore a subject like Pat Lowther, she’s also grateful to be added to the long line of U of A English professors who in the past have also been nominated.

PLEASE SEE **GG AWARD** ♦ PAGE 4

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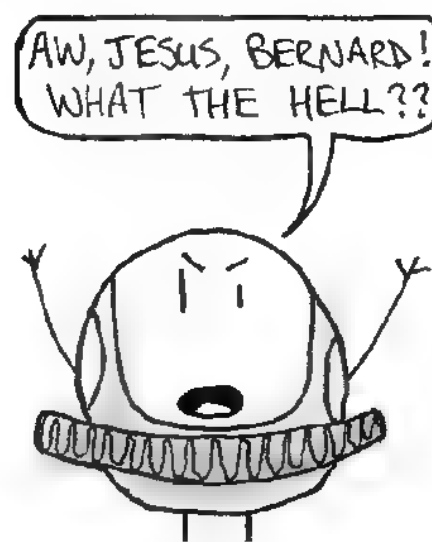
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Opinion	6-9
A&E	10-13
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Classifieds	19



Jagshemash!

Borat invites all western girllies for chitchat and sexytime. He also wants you to see his new movie-film.

A&E, PAGE 10



Bernard drops the ball

Laurence plans a very special Halloween party, but a certain anthropomorphic allergen ruins it all.

COMICS, PAGE 18



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colophon

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Mount Royal seeks AUCC membership

The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada would validate the degrees granted by the college

MRC • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In 2004, the Campus Alberta Quality Council (CAQC) was created to guide the Minister of Advanced Education on how to proceed on applications from postsecondary institutions seeking to offer new degree programs in Alberta. The council assesses degrees based on the requirements of the program and the institution's availability of resources to students.

"One of the big dividing lines today in Canada is whether you're judged as a university institution or a non-university institution," Marshall said.

Since there's no federal ministry of education or formal accreditation system, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) works alongside provincial governments, representing 89 universities and university-degree level colleges in the country.

AUCC membership, which Mount Royal is seeking now that the government has committed to making it a university, lends credibility to schools.

"Universities both in Canada and the rest of the world, quite frankly, will say, 'Look, if you are a university, we can make certain assumptions about both the environment that the student have gone to school in and the type of degree. If you're not a

university, we have to look into it a little more,'" he said.

Taylor believes Mount Royal is going about its conversion process the right way—working with both the AUCC, which focuses on the institution itself, and CAQC, which focuses on its programs—and said he supports Advanced Education Minister Denis Herard's decision.

"One of the big dividing lines today in Canada is whether you're judged as a university institution or a non-university institution."

**DAVE MARSHALL,
PRESIDENT OF MOUNT ROYAL**

However, Mount Royal's evolution from college to university is not celebrated by everyone.

Victor Doerksen, MLA for Red Deer-South and one of the eight candidates running to replace Premier Ralph Klein as leader of the Progressive Conservatives, said that instead of transforming the college to a university, the government should focus on a return

to the Campus Alberta approach, which aimed to create more flexible learning opportunities by improving ease of entry and movement within the learning system.

"With respect to Mount Royal becoming a university: I'm not in favour of that. Only because I don't know what problem it's trying to solve," Doerksen said, adding colleges play a different role than universities.

But Marshall explained that Mount Royal needs to move in this direction, since ten per cent of its students are already in collaborative degrees, where students take the courses at the institution but the degrees are granted by Athabasca University, Alberta's distance-education university.

"It's not a community college or a vocational or technical college; it's actually very much a baccalaureate college right now," Marshall said.

He added that about one-third of Mount Royal's students are in one of the 21 applied degrees offered by the college and that 50 per cent of students are in university transfer programs, taking two years at the college and the rest of their degree at a university. The change would allow students to complete all four years at Mount Royal.

The college is expected to have university status between 2012 and 2013.

KLEIN BACK TO SCHOOL

In an effort to recognize Premier Ralph Klein after his departure from government, private donors have provided the funds to create the Klein Chair of Media Studies at Mount Royal College, which will provide expertise for students in media programs.

"Whether you agree with Ralph's position or not, he's an historic figure in Canada," said President of Mount Royal College, Dave Marshall.

A former journalist, Klein will be the first person to occupy the chair, which is funded permanently at the Calgary institution. The college is in Klein's current Calgary-Elbow riding.

"We want him there mostly because of his media experience," Marshall said, adding that he hopes Klein will hold the position for one year, acting as a mentor to students and giving guest lectures.

A new leader of the Progressive Conservatives will be elected to replace Klein by December.

STREETERS

An informal poll at the *Gateway* found that fewer trick-or-treaters came around asking for sweets.

Do you think Halloween is a dying tradition?



Shane Hoeber
Kinesiology II



Wendy Sheane
Ag II



Duncan Taylor
Arts IV



Linda Tran
Science I

I think it's just because we've gotten older, so we think it's a dying tradition, but really, the kids still do it. Also, there's the safety factor that I think parents take into consideration. Lots of kids go to the malls now and get candy from stores.

To tell you the truth, I haven't been into Halloween for the last ten years. Judging by the amount of costumes around campus, I [don't think] it's a dying tradition. There were lots of costumes this year.

Yeah, I think Halloween is a dying tradition. Last year I had these kids come to my door and not only were they not dressed in costumes, but they were too damned lazy to even say, "Trick-or-treat." If you want candy from me at least expend the energy [for] the candy that I'm about to give you.

A little bit. Around my neighborhood, there used to be a lot of pumpkins, but when I went home yesterday, no lights were on, no pumpkins outside. Not many people are handing out candy anymore either. It's really sad.

Compiled and photographed by Catherine Scott and Jennifer Huygen

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LIZ DURDEN

BARE-BONE BASICS U of A researchers show off technology which will help monitor post-op hip replacement patients.

Hip new sensors help healing

RYAN HEISE
News Writer

Engineers at the University of Alberta have developed a microsensor capable of measuring the healing process in joint replacement patients, making the procedure easier and less intrusive.

The tiny sensor, which was created using nanotechnology, is designed to measure osseointegration—the process in which bone tissue attaches to the rough surface of an implant. By being able to accurately detect the amount of connection that has taken place between the bone and the implant, doctors are better equipped to prescribe different stages of rehabilitation, greatly speeding up the healing process.

Currently, the most common way to measure osseointegration is via X-ray, a relatively inaccurate measure, according to Dr Walied Moussa, a U of A professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

“The problem with X-ray is it’s very selective and qualitative,” Dr Moussa said. “It means that things might look good, but there may not be any real integration. And if that happens, then they would have to re-operate, see what the problems are and replace the implant and that is very painful.”

But, by using a microsensor that’s

permanently attached to a patient’s implant, doctors will be able to quantitatively measure the amount of osseointegration that has taken place for the first time.

“I talk to a lot of elderly people, and they really would like to see some of these things happen because it does relieve a lot of people suffering and enhances our health-care services.”

**DR WALIED MOUSSA,
OF MECHANICAL
ENGINEERING PROFESSOR**

Moussa explained that the device—developed over the last two years as a joint project between the departments of mechanical engineering and electrical engineering, the Faculty of Medicine, as well as Glenrose Rehabilitation Hospital—is completely self-contained. It consists of the sensor itself, a power unit that transfers the motion of the human body into energy, and a wireless transmitter, yet is small enough to fit on the tip of a

pen. The system stays dormant until doctors trigger it to start sending data.

He also pointed out that the micro-sensor was designed to last for long periods of time, giving doctors a better idea of when to replace a patient’s implants.

“After a certain number of years, this osseointegration starts to weaken up and people will have to change the implant,” Moussa said. “If you can have a device that is actually measuring the reduction of healing, then you can schedule people for an operation. You might not be in pain, but may be in pain in six months.”

Aside from aiding joint-replacement patients, similar devices are being developed for other bio-med applications. Small microsensors may be used in patients during specific types of surgery to accurately monitor operations and lower the risk of complications.

Moussa hopes he and his team will have a prototype within the year and can begin human testing. Even without that data, he has high expectations for the impact the device will have.

“I talk to a lot of elderly people, and they really would like to see some of these things happen because it does relieve a lot of people suffering and enhances our health-care services,” he said.

Students face all work and low pay

CaPS survey finds more students flipping burgers instead of hitting the books

THOMAS WAGNER
News Writer

Six hundred and ninety-one hours. That is the time it takes, working at Alberta’s \$7 per hour minimum wage, to earn \$4838, the average undergraduate tuition for students in Alberta, according to Statistics Canada.

With that in mind, it’s no surprise that, according to a recent survey by Career and Placement Services (CaPS), more and more students are now flipping burgers after class instead of hitting the books.

“What we found was that close to 65 per cent of [graduates] who responded to the survey were employed at some time when they were also a student, said Joan Schiebelbein, CaPS’s manager of advising services. “We’re looking at about two-thirds [of all students], and I would suspect that that has probably gone up.”

Schiebelbein attributes this high level of student employment to a number of things. In the current hot Albertan economy, it’s easier to get a job than in years past. As well, students are

becoming more interested in direct work experience on their resumé before they leave university. Most important, however, are the ever-rising costs students have to deal with.

This is hardly a shock to Siahra Skelton, an undergraduate student at the U of A, who in addition to a full course load, works three jobs for a total of 20 hours a week.

“If I didn’t have [scholarships] I would have to work [more],” Skelton said. “I wouldn’t take a full course load, and I’d be working full time and going to school.”

According to Stats Can, the average tuition for an undergraduate in Alberta has increased 275.3 per cent since 1991. In the same period of time, according to Human Resources and Social Development Canada, the minimum wage has increased \$2.50 per hour, or 55.6 per cent.

Schiebelbein feels university students need to examine closely just how much they’re working. She thinks that an extended stay in university due to a heavy workload could cost you, not save you money, in the long run.

“If it takes a student five or six years to get a degree instead of four ... are they really better off?” Schiebelbein asked. “They’ve gone to school that much longer plus they’ve delayed for [themselves] one or two years [of] full time earning potential.”

Of course, Schiebelbein notes, this possible money loss isn’t the only worry of the working student. There’s also the chance of worse marks—a problem for those with graduate or professional schools in their future—and less time for extracurricular activities.

She suggests considering a job at the University, citing flexible schedules and fewer hours as reasons to seek a job on campus. But, if students have to work outside of the University, she urges them to think very closely about the benefits of each of your job choices.

“Would you work retail over working as a server in a restaurant where you ... may be earning the same salary or the same hourly wage, [but] as a server you’re also earning tips?” Schiebelbein asked.

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RATT TOP 10 LIST.

FOR OCTOBER

(AN UNSCIENTIFIC LIST OF RATT'S FAVOURITE CUSTOMERS OF THE MONTH)

10- MOST OF ATHLETICS

9- ENGINEERING

8- "THE BARFLIES"

7- PANDAS HOCKEY

6- M. GOLD GUYS

5- UAMC

4- OILER GAME REGULARS

3- AG/FOR

2- UACS "GEEKS"

1- PS WARREN

Creative Writing's profile gets boost from nomination

GG AWARD • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"One of the big honours, for me, is to be in the company of former Governor General nominees and winners from the English department, including Rudy Wiebe, Greg Hollingshead and, just last year, Ted Bishop," Wiesenthal said.

"What all the finalists have in common is really good writing, interesting subject matter and telling a story in a way that's compelling to readers."

**DONNA BALKAN,
CANADA COUNCIL SENIOR
COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER**

Ted Bishop, a University of Alberta professor who was nominated last year for his non-fiction book *Riding With Rilke: Reflections on Motorcycles and Books*, also holds the U of A English department in high esteem, and only sees the creative writing program getting stronger in the future.

"[Wiesenthal's nomination] said we're fabulous," Bishop laughs. "We've had a really strong creative writing program for years and years and years, and as an aspiring non-fiction writer, I've noticed that non-fiction is like the poor cousin of the creative writing division."

"What I was hoping would happen is that our creative writing depart-

ment would evolve, not just replicate by getting a new little Rudy [Wiebe] and a new little Greg [Hollingshead]. So, it's great having two non-fiction books that have been nominated; it establishes Edmonton and the U of A as a place where these kinds of things can happen," Bishop said.

The Governor General's awards themselves are administered by the Canada Council for the Arts, which funds the winners' cash prizes of \$15 000 and select the panel of three jurors for each category. With promotion assistance from BMO Financial Group, The Governor General's Awards encompass the whole spectrum of Canadian literature genres, and in both languages.

"The first thing [jurors are] looking for is really good writing," explained Donna Balkan, Canada Council senior communications manager. "What all the finalists have in common is really good writing, interesting subject matter and telling a story in a way that's compelling to readers. People think of fiction writers as storytellers, but non-fiction writers are also storytellers too," she said.

Wiesenthal will find out if she's won the Governor General's award on 21 November, but until then, Canadians will get a chance to discover the writings that often pass by unannounced.

"[The award] is really to promote Canadian literature and to celebrate excellence, and to get the public out there reading," Balkan added. "We want people to get to know these fabulous authors we have here in Canada."

NEWS BRIEF

STUDENTS' UNION GOES TO THE WALL TO PUT FOCUS ONTO STUDENT DEBT

A new wall being constructed in the Students' Union Building will be built not out of mortar and stone, but out of the debt of students. The project is aimed at raising awareness about the rising cost of education in Alberta.

"I think it sends out a strong message. It's very in your face," said Dave Cournoyer, Students' Union Vice-President (External). "It's right there, and you can't dispute it. There is a lot of debt ... it is unacceptable in such a wealthy province, and in such a wealthy country."

Cournoyer explained that the SU is handing out paper bricks to interested students, asking them to write the estimated debt that they will amass by graduation. The bricks are then added to the Wall of Debt, which is put up for public viewing in SUB. He hopes that the display will bring attention to the burden that some students gather while getting an education. So far, he says he's pleased by the response of students.

Some students, like human ecology undergrad Catherine Newman, were



JOSH NAULT

POWERFUL PRICE TO PAY SU President Sam Power adds to the Wall of Debt.

positive about the project.

"I think it's fantastic. I was just yesterday freaking out about how much I have to work and how much school I have. I can't even handle it," Newman said. "[The wall is] very eye-catching. I think it's very effective."

Others disagreed with the need for a spotlight on student debt, saying that it was up to students to better manage their resources.

"I don't have any debt. I mean, if you work during the summer, and you don't

buy \$300 jeans, you shouldn't have any. It's not necessary," physical education student Justin Kon said.

Cournoyer said that the SU would continue collecting bricks until the end of the month, after which the debt total will be tallied and announced. Interested students can approach one of the SU's tables set up in various buildings around campus, or by visiting the SU office located on the second floor of SUB.

Scott Lilwall, Deputy News Editor

Early admissions not just for elite: Byrne

ADMISSIONS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

But Byrne said the use of early conditional admissions isn't only targeted at the top two per cent of students.

"It's not the elite, it's by far the vast majority of students that are eligible and actually do receive early admission, the only ones that don't receive early admission tend to be the ones that have made their applications late," Byrne said.

The *Journal* editorial called for the

U of A to look to American universities such as Harvard and Princeton, "which are now scrapping early admission programs in order to reduce the admission frenzy that overtakes high schools by Grade 11." However, Byrne stressed that while universities in the US will tell students given early admission that they can't apply anywhere else, the situation in Canada is different.

"Canadian schools have never done that," Byrne said. "And to some extent

that is what a lot of the Ivy League schools are retreating from in the States so they will still offer students early admission but they won't tie them into it."

According to Byrne, any admission policy changes recommended by the task force will be focused on facilitating enrolment to the U of A across the board—and won't be aimed at drastically increasing competition among high schoolers.

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2-100 SUB www.ualberta.ca/caps 492-4291

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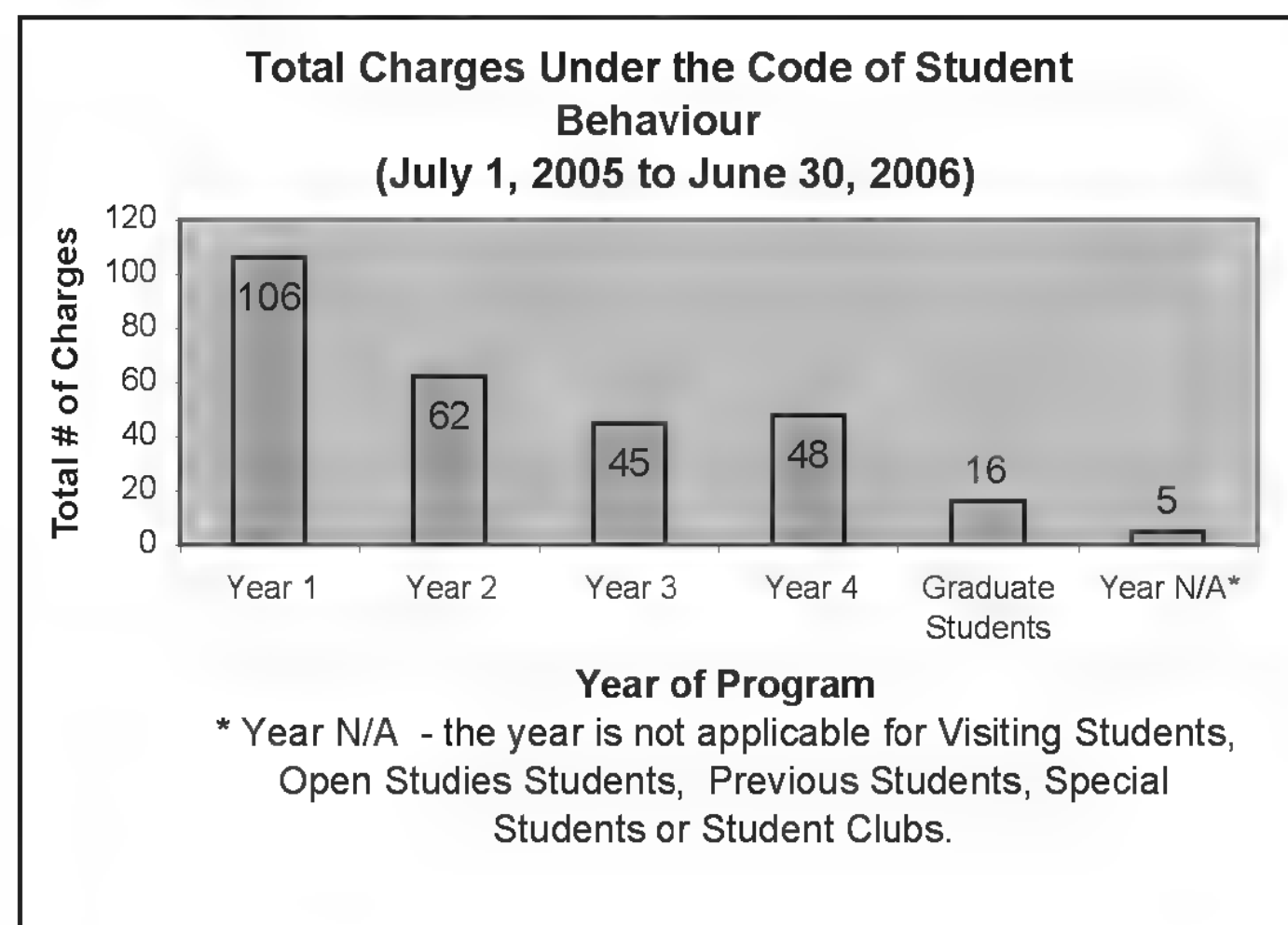
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Provided on behalf of the GFC Campus Law Review Committee (CLRC)

FOI requests decline in BC

EARSON GIBSON
The Ubyssy

VANCOUVER (CUP)—Fewer people are making freedom of information requests, response times are steadily increasing and access to politically sensitive information is becoming more difficult to attain, according to a study from the BC Freedom of Information and Privacy Association (FIPA).

The study, entitled *Access Denied: an analysis of the BC Government's response to freedom of information requests, 2000–2005*, was conducted by the non-profit organization and sponsored by the Canadian Newspaper Association and the BC Government and Service Employees Union.

"We're here to hold the government's feet to the fire," FIPA's executive director Darrel Evans said. "[The results from the study] mean that it's getting more and more difficult to get access to government information."

Evans explained that exactly what information is difficult to access depends on the government's Corporate Privacy and Information Access Branch—the body that determines which freedom of information (FOI) requests are flagged as "sensitive." These requests take longer to process and are more likely to be characterized as what the study calls "deemed refusals."

"There are a lot of deemed refusals, which simply means that the government doesn't respond in the time the legislation says they must and that's directly attributable to loss of staff within the Ministry," Evans explained.

Aside from time delays, the study also found that 65 per cent of survey respondents were charged a fee to access documents and that 31 per cent had abandoned a request because a fee was charged.

"Higher fee estimates are given now. I'd say that because most of them don't stand up to appeal, they're really just a vexatious tactic to discourage requesters," Evans said.

The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner is



BLACKED OUT AND RED TAPE Bureaucracy and fees hamper FOI requests.

independent of the government and acts as an advocate and watchdog for the public. If a citizen is not satisfied with the final response to an FOI request, the Commissioner can review the file and order a hearing.

But according to Evans, the Liberal government has steadily cut funding and resources to the OIPC since 2001. Between 2003–2005 the Commissioner's caseload had increased by 27 per cent, while his budget was cut by 35 per cent. The result, Evans said, was the OIPC's first-ever backlog of cases, with 189 carried over into 2005.

"We are now very concerned about our ability to adequately discharge our statutory duty to provide this arm's-length expert advice and support to public bodies across British Columbia," Commissioner David

Loukidelis was quoted as having said in the FIPA study.

FOI requests expert Kirk LaPointe said the legislation is in need of reform and changes in implementation.

"In many cases governments not only don't live up to the letter of the law, but not even to the spirit of the law," LaPointe said.

But LaPointe said he thinks people will eventually demand more transparency and access to information.

"[With a decrease in FOI requests] there will be a threat to our safety that we don't learn about, a scandal that we're not privy to, something substantial that the government has been hiding," he predicted. "At the moment we're not in the mood to rattle the cage of government ... but these things have a way of going in cycles."

Students survey course evaluations

JESSICA McDONALD
The Fulcrum

OTTAWA (CUP)—Students unhappy with the methodology of professor evaluations can now have their say in a survey being distributed by the Student Federation of the University of Ottawa.

The five-minute survey examines the potential demand for a new evaluation system, posing questions on the current system and on support for an independent course-evaluation process that would share results with students.

The SFUO explained that it's displeased with the survey conducted by the University Administration. And, according to the SFUO, the biggest concern is that students' comments are only seen by their professors.

"I understand the comments can't be published because some of the comments can be libel, but it should go to the [professor's] supervisor," said SFUO Vice-President (Academic Affairs) Julien de Bellefeuille. "Positive or negative comments keep on getting repeated and nothing changes."

But Robert Major, U of O Vice-President (Academic) and Provost, is concerned that if students receive too many surveys, fewer will respond,

ultimately lowering the credibility of any results.

The University is sensitive to what is called survey fatigue. The more surveys there are, the less the students tend to respond," Major said, adding that he's concerned about the section of the survey that deals with course evaluations.

"I think the more information students can get, the better. We like to have as many sources as possible."

**ANDRÉ BRAZEAU,
SFUO PRESIDENT**

"There is a system of evaluations at the University which already deals with course evaluation," he said.

During the winter semester of 2005, the Political Studies Student Association (PSSA) distributed its own professor evaluations in political studies courses. And according to de Bellefeuille—who wasn't working for the SFUO at the time—it was unsuccessful due to a conflict with the evaluations already in place.

"Basically, when students were answering the University one, we encouraged [them] to fill [the PSSA's] out instead, or along with the University's, and the University shut it down and really weren't happy with it," de Bellefeuille said.

But for Robert Leclerc, U of O President of the Association of Professors, it was a matter of the surveys being repetitive.

"To say we shut [the survey] down is not correct," he said. "If I recall what did happen, the PSSA had their own survey based on their professor's performance, and ... we already have one that's been in place for many years."

"The general message is: we have different surveys and questionnaires on providing performance evaluations to teachers, and I think to have more than one survey—it would be confusing to students," Leclerc later added.

However, SFUO President André Brazeau said the student-run survey's intention was to see what kind of participation it could generate and to see how students felt on certain subjects.

"I think the more information students can get, the better. We like to have as many sources as possible," Brazeau said.

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STUDENTS' UNION PRINT CENTRE

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS' UNION

Canuck army eyeing athletes

CANADIAN INTERUNIVERSITY SPORT RECENTLY signed a \$500 000 sponsorship deal with the Canadian Armed Forces. In return for the cash, the military will receive logo placement at CIS events and on the organization's website. More controversially, they will also receive recruiting opportunities at CIS national championships and one-on-one time with CIS athletes. Though it could be argued that the CIS has hand-delivered its 12 000 athletes to the Forces with little yellow bows around their necks, this is actually a very solid deal for both parties.

The Armed Forces gain access to what amounts to their ideal recruits: physically fit young men and women who are adept at managing their time and listening to authority figures. The military has taken the stance that they want CIS athletes as officers, not merely your rank-and-file soldiers, and that those with athletic backgrounds have historically served best in these positions.

For the CIS, they get a badly needed influx of money into their organization. Some of it has already been allocated to producing nationally televised events—25 of them, in fact. With the advent of Rogers Sportsnet's regional coverage and the Score's push to show more live programming and fewer highlights, CIS has been searching for a foothold on TV for the past few years, but they've never been able to get it done, always resorting to last-minute agreements with one channel or another just for basic coverage of national championships. By finally having the green to get some playoffs—or even regular-season competition—on the tube, CIS now has a great opportunity to build their sports into the national consciousness.

There's an opportunity for money to be made off CIS sports as well. The NCAA in the United States generates huge revenues: football alone received \$80 million US over four years for broadcast rights to its Bowl Championship Series, and there's very little reason that the CIS couldn't eventually do the same. Men's university hockey, football and basketball, as well as both men's and women's curling, all have the potential to be money-makers—the sports have done so at numerous levels in Canada over the years—and in doing so could subsidize the other 18 sports that will hold national championships next season.

The money not being put into broadcasting costs has been earmarked for team travel. This is another move by the CIS to improve the quality of their product, as increased travel means more matchups between top teams from different parts of the country in non-conference play and more international competition. People want to see their team take on NCAA or international competition. The U of A's Main Gym is at its fullest for the Can-Am Challenge or when the volleyball teams host some European national squad. Moreover, increased travel subsidies could be a good thing for the students of the member universities. Programs such as the U of A's Legacy Fund, a fee levied by the SU and given to the Athletics Department to support travel costs, may not be necessary if CIS can afford to cover those costs out of its own coffers.

Even for some of the athletes who are allegedly being exploited, a deal with the Canadian Armed Forces isn't a bad thing. Some athletes are in school mainly to play varsity sports—and I don't blame them, I would do it too if I was good enough—and not to become academics. While many will graduate and move on to successful careers of their choosing, there are also Golden Bears or Pandas every year who make themselves academically ineligible. For these people, the military would be a great alternative for subsidized school costs or for a stable career. It's not like Bears b-baller Scott Gordon is going to walk into a hotel suite in Ottawa during Nationals, talk with a military recruiter and realize that he'd rather drive a tank than become an accountant. But even if he did, he could still be exposed to the same message at a job fair in the Butterdome.

Giving athletes the opportunity to join the Armed Forces doesn't take away their ability to form the word “no.” What this deal does give them, however, is the ability to experience things they might never do otherwise—like compete in Greece or have their family see them on Rogers Sports Network.

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor

LETTERS

Disabilities don't necessitate abortion

I was Googling the news when I saw the outrageous editorial on aborting the conjoined twins (re: “Modern science only complicates abortion debate,” 31 October).

[It said that] “whether they can live happy, fulfilling lives after being separated—or after not being separated—is definitely questionable and will, undoubtedly, be the cause of a lot of strife.” Ridiculous. People find ways to live fulfilling lives without being fully healthy. Outsiders cannot be the judge of quality of life.

Humans are not to be disposed of like trash just because they have disabilities. People with disabilities fear that attitude because they know it leads to the eugenic mentality that seeks to eliminate them. It's an extremely dangerous attitude.

SUZANNE FORTIN
Via e-mail

Ash's prescription deadly

So the emotional and physical effects notwithstanding, Amanda's prescription is a medical execution of innocents at 20 weeks, when it was first detected?

Does Amanda feel there should be law to govern similar situations? Has Amanda ever heard of “eugenics” or “slippery slope”?

KEVIN FRASER
Via e-mail

A modest, preventative proposal

Let me see if I have this correct: a 21-year-old unmarried woman on social assistance has twins. She already has two children, and one is four years old—which means she was making babies when she was 16.

Now we have an unmarried woman on social assistance with four children, two of whom need 24-hour-a-day support at taxpayers' expense. The issue is not whether Felicia should have had an abortion as Amanda Ash suggested—Felicia Simms needs her tubes tied.

GORDON STAMP
Alumnus

Samarasekera seeing stratospheric strudels

I agree with Rocky Yoo that “the provinces' flagship university is not measuring up,” but I disagree that aiming for the status of “Top 20 in 2020” is the solution to our university's woes (re: “University's vision blurred by lofty goals,” 31 October). Quite the contrary: undergraduate education suffered while this university strived to be ‘Indisputably Recognized’ as former president Rod Fraser travelled worldwide to attract research dollars, international reputation and profile.

In the meantime, classrooms are more crowded, one-on-one time with professors is harder to come by, and student public space for study and social is increasingly insufficient; and, of course, as quality has declined the costs of an undergraduate



SCOTT C. BOURGEOIS

education have risen dramatically.

If for one am not at all convinced that chasing the mirage of “reputation” is the way to build a great university for undergraduates, especially since the “key performance indicators” measured by the international university rankings tend to be research- and institute-focused, and are generally not undergraduate-focused.

Rather than asking the Students' Union to join the University in advocating for a pie-in-the-sky vision, Mr Yoo might consider asking the University to join with us in asking first for the funding and tools necessary to restore quality to the basics in public undergraduate education: more professors in classrooms, lower tuition, better student aid and more student study- and social-space. Only after we've covered the basics can we reasonably talk about “aspiring to greatness.”

SAMANTHA POWER
SU President

Jeske returns for 291 words, 0 points

In response to Ross Prusakowski's article about the Bears' QB situation, I would like to tell him that first he has to learn about the game before he can start bashing the players (re: “QB's football team's weakest Linke,” 31 October). Honestly, what have you been smoking? Both Cam and Quade are great quarterbacks and to have you just rant and rave at how bad they are without even realizing the amount of work, pressure and knowledge they need and go through to play is extraordinary.

Here's the situation. I'll give you 20 seconds to call a play for the offence,

get to the line and read the defence to make sure that that play will work, and then if it does, just start avoiding the guys that are 250-plus pounds and athletic (unlike you) that want to rip your head off. If the play won't work, well now it's time to change to something that will.

I applaud Cam for his efforts and the time that he spends trying to make our team better. And to have you completely belittle my quarterback's performance is outrageous. He may not have played all five years of his eligibility, but that was Cam's last game too, so to have you make the comments you did for that man's final game is stupid. Maybe you should find out that both of them are intelligent, athletic and excellent at what they do. Do you honestly think that Peyton Manning, Steve Young or even Joe Montana were great in their first year at starting quarterback? I doubt it. So Ross, why don't you get educated before you start running your mouth and ripping all the varsity teams which I have seen you do way too often.

KENDALL JESKE
Education V

Change wouldn't do UNICEF good

I'm writing in response to both the “Streeters” section and Chloe Fedio's article “Trick or Treat—or \$20, bitch” in the 19 October issue of the Gateway. Both pieces took a cynical, incomplete, and misleading look at UNICEF's trick-or-treat campaign.

To clarify, UNICEF has in fact moved away from sending children on Halloween to collect coin door

to door in favour of new-campaign. Instead, children fundraise for the whole month of October and teachers, parents, and kids are welcome to fundraise however they wish. UNICEF supplies posters where classes can build a school out of \$20 “bricks” (there is no \$20 per child rule) and each kid gets a trick-or-treat bag with UNICEF logos to raise awareness on Halloween. Volunteers give presentations at schools about UNICEF's projects, and teachers can tie it in to their curriculum. In conjunction, there is the “Dare-to-wear” campaign where adults can pledge to dress-up in embarrassing costumes if their colleagues (or university students) raise enough money.

There are many very realistic reasons for this change. True, paranoid parents were a factor, given that UNICEF needs parent co-operation; but this was minor. Collecting so much coin is a logistical nightmare. Schools were becoming frustrated with issues in collecting, storing, and transporting vast sacks of coin. Coin is heavy and it had to be shipped, at UNICEF's expense, to centralized processing centers. UNICEF began to realize that this was vastly inefficient, and a lot of money that could be helping children was being lost to overhead. It observed that when it decentralized fundraising and let schools/groups do their own fundraisers they could make much more money and help more children.

ANDREW THEOBOLD
Communications Chair
Campus UNICEF

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

Violence amongst minorities only perpetuates stereotypes



IAN KETEKU

Much has been made in the past about violence at nightclubs here in Edmonton—as well as the ensuing discrimination that inevitably stems from it—and after the events of Saturday night at the Red Light Lounge, this issue is once again at the forefront of local media and public circles.

Unfortunately, I cannot deny that black males, violence and nightclubs go together all too often. I have known individuals that been the victims and victimizers of “black on black” violence in the nightclubs, and am not ignorant in this matter. I also cannot refute the fact that some of the discrimination on the part of the staff that takes place at these facilities of leisure is based on the intended protection of the other patrons, based on past instances of violence where ethnic minorities were involved. But this issue is complex and will not be solved by placing blame and pointing fingers. The solution lies in education.

Many of the black youth of this city need to seriously think about the ramifications of their public actions before they undertake them, moreso than is the case with white youth. This is unfortunate, but true. I doubt that the instigators understand the ramifications that their actions have on their communities, the

“The idea of buying a gun and using it to settle a beef with an adversary is not something that is taught in schools or by our parents; rather it derives from mass media and the image of what television, movies and popular music illustrate as the epitome of a young black male.”

reputation of their demographic and the future of the youth from that demographic. The effect of the actions of a few ethnic minorities unfortunately influences the perception that the mainstream citizenry have of their respective communities.

We need to question our role models and deconstruct the stereotypes that they perpetuate, a responsibility of every member of our society. The idea of buying a gun and using it to settle a beef with an adversary is not something that is taught in schools or by our parents; rather it derives from mass media and the image of what television, movies and popular music illustrate as the epitome of a young black male. We need to stop attempting to emulate 50 Cent and start emulating leaders in our community and individuals that help our youth prosper and grow.

But who’s going to administer such education and change? It’s not only the mission of these wannabe gangsters, their parents or the community but everyone else as well, from the government to the scriptwriters for television shows—and, most importantly, teachers. The lack of cultural competence and anti-racism training for current and potential teachers is appalling. The result is a plethora of immigrant and minority youth who

perform below average in school, don’t continue to postsecondary education and are left vulnerable to influences from gangs, violence and hate. Another factor is the less-than-effective promotion of stricter gun laws that were the advent of the Conservative government. Harper wishes to introduce a law that will establish a minimum sentence for gun crimes. This will only make it more difficult to obtain the weapons, but to use a cliché: “guns don’t kill people—people do.” It doesn’t remove the hate, fear and anger that are rampant among youth in our communities. These resources should be directed toward youth education programs that illustrate the consequences of joining gangs and promoting violence.

Finally, it’s imperative that we critically examine the types of crimes and criminals that the police service, politicians and media romanticize. The fact that they pay special attention to certain blue-collar crimes and ethnic-minority criminals creates a false perception that these types of crimes and criminals constitute the majority—a façade that will not lose ground until we all work together to eliminate the factors that produce situations of violence.

Hotheads wreaking havoc on youth

A little bit of tolerance can go a long way in preventing senseless violence



CHRIS SALTTEL

23 October, 2005—does that date ring a bell? It was the weekend before Halloween last year. It’s the day a gangster wannabe fired a gun at a group of girls in hopes of frightening them. It was on 134 Avenue and 124 Street, just a short walk from Orlando’s Pub, that my friend Sarah Easton was shot by this “gangster.” The bullet did more than scare them, as bullets to the head are rarely just frightening. Sarah died a senseless death that night while walking home with friends from her 18th birthday party.

The newspapers called it a random shooting. No one knew of any motivation for it. A friend that was with Sarah the night of the shooting told me that the guy was making advances on her and her entourage, and that he had been consistently rejected. Everyone thought he was just being a drunken asshole. He left the bar and waited for them in his car in the parking lot. They never even knew he was following them.

I can’t name very many people who deserved this less than Sarah did. Her friendships bridged the normal cliques of a high school, so you can imagine the size of her funeral. Sarah touched hearts—including mine—

and she is missed.

So as you parade out this weekend and fill night clubs and house parties, remember why you’re out in the first place. We go out to have a good time and create memories that we’ll laugh at later. Let’s remember that everyone is out to have a good time, there’s no reason to resolve our differences with violence.

Apparently I wasn’t the only one interested in her Moulin Rouge attire. Another guy sitting at the bar with me had been trying to pick her up all night, and it’s safe to say that the cock-block I laid down on him wasn’t appreciated.

Last Saturday I went to my neighborhood pub, the Horse Shu, and found myself in just this sort of predicament. I went to see the bartender, a friend of mine, in her Halloween costume, which consisted of a corset and Adrianna Lima-esque panties.

Apparently I wasn’t the only one interested in her Moulin Rouge attire. Another guy sitting at the bar with me had been trying to pick her up all night,

and it’s safe to say that the cock-block I laid down on him wasn’t appreciated. When he shook my hand he squeezed with fierceness and fire in his drunken, half-passed-out eyes. I diffused the situation by buying two Kokanees instead of one. I asked the fellow his name, we chatted about Dwayne Roloson’s outstanding shutout performance, and by the time he left, a fist-fight was out of the question between buddies as well acquainted as us.

I haven’t talked to anyone who’s enjoying the growing crime rate in our beloved city. Everyone seems to have the same sense that it’s unnecessary and unfortunate. Sunday morning’s shooting at the Red Light Lounge has unfortunately brought this back into the spotlight for at least a week or two.

So if a guy stares you down, buy him a beer and find out why. If he’s dancing with your significant other, remember you’re the one she’s going home with. The knowledge that it will be you, and not Mr Grinds-to-close, that will be going home with your girlfriend tonight should be enough to make you feel like a man without having to turn the parking lot at Cowboys into an Ultimate Fighting Championship octagon. And this goes for you too, ladies: you can be just as ill-tempered even without all that testosterone.

Sarah’s death doesn’t have to be senseless. It can be remembered as more than a random and fatal act of stupidity. So do me—and everyone else—a favour when you hit the streets on the weekend and keep a cool head.

OUR WEEKLY LINEUP

Mini Burger Mondays:
Cure that case of the “Mondays” with 99¢ mini burgers and \$10 jugs. House Rules Apply. 7pm to close

Karaoke Tuesdays:
Downstairs in the LIBRARY. Like Canadian Idol, only our \$8.99 nachos are cheesier than Ben Mulroney. 7pm to close

Wing Wednesdays:
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Loonie Thursdays:
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Finally Fridays: Extended Happy Hour.
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S.O.S. Saturdays:
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Individuality is overrated



GRAHAM
LETTNER

It just doesn't work. Being an individual that is. In this wide, wonderful, wholly interconnected, interdependent, intergalactic world, the individual has become obsolete. It's so '90s. It's about time we accepted this fact and got on with the business of making our society much, much better.

Think of all the ways a person is utterly dependant on society. Who grows all the food that we eat each day? Individuals don't hunt and gather water, power and cable TV all by themselves. It's rare indeed to find someone who can write, produce and play all their own original music—the rest of us mere mortals rely on iTunes.

The police, the fire department, the courts and every other municipal service are daily instances of societal dependence by the individual. So are international trade agreements, security alliances, borders, coast guards and over-eager airport security staff.

Walk down the publicly paved and funded road, leaf through the black and white daily put together by the associated press late last night, see a doctor to get that rash looked at, watch a movie, quote another off-colour *Family Guy* line: every daily event declares undeniably the supremacy of society over individual insignificance.

"How about this common exercise in doublethink: wanting Edmonton to improve the public transit system and simultaneously skipping out on the meager \$2.25 LRT-fare. Of course, homelessness is an absolute scourge, but must-see-TV doesn't leave much time to take to pitch in at a downtown soup kitchen."

Dig a bit deeper and you'll get philosophers like Ludwig Wittgenstein saying that even an individual's language only acquires meaning through public usage. Fancy that: without societal conventions the individual can't even express himself.

Yet it's overly tempting to want to have our proverbial cake and eat it too. It would be great if our ever-bewildered provincial government could govern Alberta out of the mess of an overheated economy, but forget about lending any credence the current leadership race. As for the environment, props go to green energy, carbon taxes and Al Gore—just don't let the proposed new wind farm go ahead and ruin Pincher Creek's Rocky Mountain view.

How about this common exercise in doublethink: wanting Edmonton to improve the public transit system and simultaneously skipping out on the meager \$2.25 LRT-fare. Of course, homelessness is an absolute scourge, but must-see-TV doesn't leave much time to take to pitch in at a downtown soup kitchen.

We as individuals are flawed because we're each a one-way street. We're great at taking from society, but not so conscious about putting back, adding to or growing society

in return. We're fundamentally maladaptive as we narrow our focus to ourselves dismembered from society, a state that is as fundamentally untrue as it is dangerous.

The world has changed and become hyper-complex and hyper-connected, impossible to discern from a single point of view. The world is unintelligible to the individual because the individual no longer fits into the world.

The problems we see as a society require enlightened self-interest, wisdom that crosses borders and perspectives, and understanding that comes with shedding the petty label of individuality. In short, the individual is unsustainability personified.

Albert Einstein said he reminded himself daily that his life depends on the work and effort of so many others both living and dead, and that he felt compelled to give in the same order that he had received and continued to receive.

I think his sentiment is captured like this: the individual is obsolete. Think about it, mull it over, then accept it and get to work. Tomorrow's society will hinge on how many of us can drop the outdated moniker of individual and get on with making the world a better place.

Third Way needed for washrooms

The times they are a-changin'—and gender expectations along with them



ELIZABETH
MCMILLAN

Anyone who has ever wandered into the wrong public washroom has known the wrath of angry occupants appalled that you would dare intrude into "their" space. But imagine if this happened to you everyday.

Distinguishing the person-in-address from a person-in-pants on washroom doors is not the answer. Because seriously, it's often hard to tell the difference to begin with. And moreover, very few women using women's washrooms are ever wearing giant crinolines. It's not the 19th century anymore.

If you were on campus last week you may have noticed signs asking "infinite genders ... two washrooms?" That's because a group of concerned members of the campus community has started a publicity campaign advocating single stall, gender neutral bathrooms on campus.

Before you get your gender-specific underwear in a knot and start referencing *Ally MacBeal* reruns, this isn't to suggest that the current bathroom facilities should be demolished in favour of a no-holds-barred environment. What it does propose is integrating the possibility of a transgender-friendly space, an alternative to the two-choice format that currently exists—much like a unisex

wheelchair-accessible bathroom.

Think of it as a people's washroom. Parents could feel comfortable taking their children there; people with mobility issues could manoeuvre more easily, and it would provide a refuge for people who just don't enjoy using public washrooms. Others would probably enjoy the option of a lock that actually works and a barrier between them and the rest of campus. The practicality is undeniable, as anyone who's ever had an unexpected case of nausea away from home can attest.

**Public washrooms are
neither safe nor private.
They are a public area
removed from the
public eye.**

Other universities such as McGill have made this commonplace. And since the U of A is all about getting up to par with McGill, this is something we should consider.

Public washrooms are neither safe nor private. They are a public area removed from the public eye. Assaults committed against both men and women have been known to happen there for precisely this reason. Transgendered people are more at risk because they threaten the masculine or feminine space so designated by the sign on the door.

On a daily basis people are harassed by intentional and unintentional opposition to their ambiguous

appearances, which confuse traditional conceptualizations of masculinity and femininity. Challenging the structural gender binary is a step in the right direction towards acknowledging that not everyone can—or wants to be—categorized in such binary terms.

As it stands now, there are unused single-stall bathrooms in the Tory Building and the Humanities Centre. In other buildings, there are many floors with more than one men's and women's washroom. Converting one of these three rooms into a gender-neutral space would not rob either sex of their exclusive space and would create an inviting alternative open to everyone.

Does this proposed change create a sexualized environment? Hardly, unless you're an antsy first-year couple looking for some quality time away from your residence roommate. Instead, this removes the focus on gender roles and creates a secure space.

Gender-neutral bathrooms are an easy way to rethink ideas surrounding sex, gender and identity politics. By forcing people quite literally to choose one door or another, society tries to overlook and dismiss anyone who does not fit the norm.

So think about the possibilities of infinite genders and infinite options—though you probably won't get to see the posted signs anymore. A concerned citizen apparently took them down, no doubt worried that the world would stop if they considered an option beyond the ones nailed securely to the door—or maybe they just thought it was still the '50s.

PS: parking on this campus sucks



RYAN WILLIAMS

For less than \$60, most Edmonton-area students can easily access all that Edmonton Transit Service has to offer, like hundreds of bus routes and LRT service to campus. However, not everyone can enjoy this privilege. In my area of the city, bus routes have been cut heavily rather than increased. So, about three years ago, due to the unreliability of service in my area, I bought myself a car, insured it, bought a parking pass to Windsor car park, and all was well. Times change, however, and with the parking situation on campus in dire need of a fix, I'm wishing I had stayed on ETS' case to improve their service.

Prices have increased every year for campus parking, but spaces haven't. Also, even as much as demand increases, you can't sell more spaces than actually exist, can you? Though it may seem like a myth, the state of parking has left me wondering if the University has actually oversold its parking lots. It seems that there aren't enough spaces to accommodate the amount of cars, the University doesn't keep tabs on when the lots are actually full, and that priorities don't go to pass holders.

Up until last year in Windsor, I used to be able to find a decent space on demand. Now it's either a case of come a half-hour early, circle the lot



JOSH NAULT

OOH, THERE'S A SPOT Campus lots are filling up, but Parking Services doesn't seem to be doing much about it.

like a vulture, wait for someone to leave, or come late, right when people are clearing out from a previous class. I know of some pass holders that actually have to park at a meter before their class, then move their car and look around for a space during a spare.

Meanwhile Parking Services has done nothing as far as I can tell, and it seems that certain things are looked the other way on, while other things are ridiculous and in need of change. First of all, do we need the motorcycle spots to remain for motorcycles after it snows? I think most of us Windsorites have been dinged with a ticket thinking there's no way they would ticket you for parking in one of the motorcycle spots in a snowstorm in December.

Then there's those cars we've all seen that never move. Anyone who tries to get a space on the bottom level has seen the non-running red late-'60s Plymouth Fury II—the one that sits in the same space, day and night, and never moves. This has to be either illegal or some sort of parking lot scandal involving employees. No one should be allowed to have unrestricted, 24/7/365 storage of their vehicle in a university lot where spaces are desperately needed.

Finally, the lots also just aren't monitored well enough. We read in Campus Crime Beat about cars being stolen. I've also witnessed road rage as frustration increases over finding spaces. People end up speeding, having accidents, fighting with other drivers,

vandalizing cars and stealing them. It's now to the point where using the lot is a dangerous risk to you and your car, as innocent a bystander as you might be. In years passed, I regularly used to see parking patrol trucks around the lot. Now I don't see them anymore, even when parking patrol and security should be stepped up in the lots.

Parking needs to be safe, reliable and easy for all students and visitors to the U of A, and PS has not been there to implement or enforce any policies to make this so, from what I've seen. We won't see any new spaces unfortunately, but we should see new rules, new policies and increased patrol that prevents problems like I've described. And it needs to be soon, before it gets more out of hand than it already is.

THE BURLAP SACK

Coca-Cola and Nestlé are going to release a drink called Enviga in the US in January. They claim that if a person drinks three of the 355ml cans, that person can burn 60-100 calories. According to CBC's website, "the claim is based on research on how an antioxidant in green tea speeds up metabolism and energy use, especially when combined with caffeine."

CBC also writes that Coca-Cola's "claim depends partly on research that hasn't been publicly released or formally reviewed by other scientists, and skeptics aren't convinced of the health benefits." Okay, Coca-Cola, come to the U of A, and ask any scientist on this campus how reliable a non-peer-reviewed study is, or what they think of data that aren't publicly verifiable. Of course your "study" shows that people burned 60-100 calories if they drank *three* Envigas! If I drank three 355ml of anything, I would burn calories from getting up and dashing to the can every two minutes!

And besides, even if I *wanted* to ply myself with caffeine and green tea extracts to burn calories, couldn't I just drink regular caffeinated tea and then some green tea, rather than buying Enviga? Or just exercise?

According to the CBC, "Coca-Cola says the product can be part of a balanced lifestyle." Well, Enviga can also be part of the contents of my burlap sack. Delivering a nice, satisfying beating and mopping the floor afterwards can burn 60-100 calories too.

MARIA KOTOVYCH



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